

# RSAW



Cymdeithas Frenhinol Penseiri yng Nghymru  
Royal Society of Architects in Wales

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Ms Julie James MS  
Minister for Climate Change  
Welsh Government  
5th Floor  
Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

6 January 2022

Dear Minister

On behalf of RSAW members – over 600 Chartered Architects in Wales - we would like to highlight concerns around River Wye SAC and River Teifi SAC and the apparent lack of support to be able to progress work forward to enable members to ‘build better places’ in Wales.

In Powys for example, only 10% of the target to deliver new homes has been achieved recently (as per the recent LDP monitoring report), and development is now at a standstill and unable to progress. The issue stems wider, to any building which requires to be connected to drainage, potentially not being able to happen until 2025 or after.

We would like to suggest that urgent work is undertaken to create solutions for private treatment plants, but also that investment in public treatment works is prioritised. Authorities in England, specifically Herefordshire and Shropshire, are much further along with this process and would be well worth consulting.

Whilst the catchments of the Wye and Teifi are quite sparsely populated, the regulations may need to be applied to a river catchment in a more populous area in the future which would have a devastating impact on the supply of much needed new housing.

Yours sincerely

Elinor Weekley  
Director RSAW

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