

Dr J P Smith
Barmouth Viaduct Access Group
Barmouth
Gwynedd

13th June 2013

Dear Dr Smith,

Re: Barmouth Viaduct Access Group

Thank you for your recent emails.

Sustrans makes smarter travel choices possible, desirable and inevitable. We're the leading UK charity enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day. We work with families, communities, policy-makers and partner organisations so that people are able to choose healthier, cleaner and cheaper journeys, with better places and spaces to move through and live in.

Sustrans have been responsible for the development of the National Cycle Network in partnership with over 400 local authorities across the country. The NCN is a comprehensive network of safe and attractive places to cycle and walk and acts as a framework for other sustainable transport initiatives designed to counteract increased motor traffic and its adverse effects, whilst benefiting local communities and the local economy as a tourism and leisure facility.

I am writing to offer Sustrans support to the above proposal which aims to provide a traffic-free link between the Barmouth/Mawddach Viaduct and Barmouth Promenade.

Lon Mawddach, which is part of the National Cycle Network, passes through the area and the last section of this wonderful route between Dolgellau and Barmouth requires the Barmouth Viaduct Access Group proposal to be developed so as to provide a more direct and accessible alignment for the route.

The provision of a high quality link will greatly enhance the National Cycle Network whilst also providing a real opportunity for the communities of Arthog, Fairbourne and Barmouth to travel without the use of a motor vehicle.

A 2008 study of the Celtic Trail (NCR 4), which runs from Chepstow to Fishguard, shows that cycle tourists from outside Wales bring more than £8 million a year to the local economy and Sustrans believes there is similar potential for this area if traffic free walking and cycling routes are extended and the routes are marketed and promoted to their full potential. Please have a look at the following link for the full report:

[www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/Wales%20General/CTT%20Report%20final_with_pics\(1\).pdf](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/Wales%20General/CTT%20Report%20final_with_pics(1).pdf)

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Glyn Evans', is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

D Glyn Evans
Area Manager, North & Mid Wales