

Ken Skates AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KS/01870/17
Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

21 June 2017

Dear

Thank you for your letter of 23 May following consideration of my response of 20 September 2016 regarding petition P-05-716.

I appreciate the concerns expressed by the petition organiser concerning the safety of pupils and can assure you that passenger safety is of paramount importance to both the Welsh Government and Arriva Trains Wales. The risk assessment to which Arriva Trains Wales refer too in their response to the petitioner have been undertaken to ensure the safety of passengers. My officials have discussed this issue with Arriva Trains Wales and they confirm that this is a matter they take extremely seriously and have committed to do everything in their power to ensure the safety of pupils using Treorchy Station.

I understand the concerns that free rail travel has been taken away. However I have been assured by Arriva Trains Wales that the arrangements now in place are the same as those for other schools with significant numbers of pupils using rail services. I have previously advised that the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 places a requirement on local authorities to provide free transport to learners of compulsory school age (5-16) who live more than two miles from their nearest suitable primary school or more than three miles from their nearest suitable secondary school.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Skates AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.