

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-714
Ein cyf/Our ref KS/02140/17

David J Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

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

12 July 2017

Dear

David,

Thank you for your letter of 19 June regarding the committee's consideration of petition P-05-714 for a new station in Gabalfa to be included as part of the Stage 1 Assessment on New Rail Stations Prioritisation and, if further, separate, consideration will be given to potential links to the South Wales Metro in the area covered by the petition.

A methodology has been developed for assessing proposals for new rail stations which can be applied in a cost effective and proportionate way. The assessment methodology follows a three stage approach. Therefore the costly work of producing detailed cost estimates, and timetable modelling for new station proposals is only undertaken for our highest priorities.

The first stage in this work programme has now been undertaken. The regional stations identified for further assessment were the ones that scored the highest across all the criteria tested. A new station at Gabalfa was given consideration in the sifting process and scored well against the criteria

I have enclosed a copy of the Stage 1 Assessment Report on New Rail Stations Prioritisation which includes the transport case assessment criteria.

The stage two assessments will look in more detail at the strength of the financial and economic case for a new railway station, including advice from Network Rail on deliverability. This is an on-going and iterative process and once the assessment of the priority list is completed there will be an opportunity to then consider the next group of regional stations.

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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.

The South Wales Metro is designed so it can grow to make it even more accessible to passengers. At its core, the Metro is about faster and more frequent services on an extendable network to link communities that are currently poorly served by regional public transport. As the Metro grows, areas that are not currently served will be able to access the network.

Although we do not presently have any plans to include a Mynachdy and Talybont station as part of the South Wales Metro proposals, Metro Phase 3 will see future rail extensions and further bus integration measures to extend the reach of the Metro to deliver a truly joined up regional network that will enable a wide range of benefits.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ken Skates', with a stylized flourish above the name.

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