

James Price
Chief Executive
Transport for Wales

30 November 2020

Dear James,

Thank you for attending Committee on 18 November. Your evidence was very useful and members appreciated the frankness of your responses to our questions. We also look forward to seeing the financial details you could not discuss today when you can release them.

While we touched on transfer of the Core Valley Lines (CVL) and the delivery of the South Wales Metro in the session, Members had further questions on those topics that we did not have time for. As these are quite technical in nature it may be better that you answer them in a letter in any case.

The Committee welcomes your reassurances that the upgrade to the Metro is ‘baked in’ and the planned investment will go ahead under the new arrangement between Transport for Wales and Amey Keolis Infrastructure Limited (AKIL).

We would appreciate further information on the terms of the CVL transfer, and arrangements for their operation and regulation:

1. The Committee has previously indicated that reporting on investment should be at least as transparent as previous Network Rail reporting, and that the transfer provides an opportunity to provide greater transparency. With this in mind, please can you set out the arrangements that have been put in place to report on the



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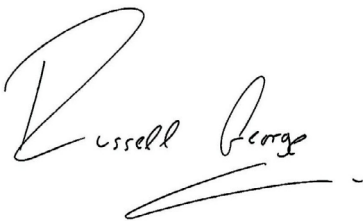
investments being made in the Core Valley Lines? Please can you include detail arrangements for:

- Enhancement investment; and
- Operational Maintenance and Renewal investment.

2. Please can you also set out more generally what measures will be in place to report on operational performance of the lines; and of AKIL's activities in relation to the above bullet points?
3. Members are also interested in the regulation of the Core Valley Lines. Please could you set out how the lines are regulated, and specifically the roles played by AKIL, Transport for Wales, the Welsh Government, Network Rail and the Office of Road and Rail and how they all interact within the regulatory space?
4. Finally, could you outline the nature of the expected contract with AKIL, specifically whether this will focus on delivery of the infrastructure project or whether it is your expectation that AKIL will act as infrastructure manager in the long-term.

Thank you again for your time, and for your openness in responding to the Committee's questions.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell George". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Russell George MS

Chair: Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee

