

Lee Waters AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Deputy Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1349
Ein cyf/Our ref LW/01054/23

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee

09 August 2023

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 25 May enclosing P-06-1349. I am sorry for the delay in responding but I can confirm that the Welsh Government has no plans to introduce '15-minute cities' in Wales.

I also reject the premise of the petition, which is typical of the misinformation we see purported by groups like 'Voice of Wales'. 15-minute cities and 20-minute neighbourhoods are not about restricting freedoms, introducing surveillance, or controlling people's lives and there is not a shred of credible evidence to suggest otherwise.

Llwybr Newydd, our Wales Transport Strategy, talks about bringing services to people to reduce the need to travel. This doesn't mean preventing travel, or restricting freedom, it means planning ahead for better physical and digital connectivity and supporting access to more local services - including more home and remote working. It is about investing in sustainable transport, so that people can choose to walk, cycle, or use public transport for some journeys.

And it is about making the right thing to do, the easy thing to do – so that transport can play its part in delivering on our net zero commitments in Wales.

If you have any further questions, I would be very happy to address them.

Yours sincerely,

Lee Waters AS/MS
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Deputy Minister for Climate Change

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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.