



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1439
Ein cyf/Our ref KSNWT/10621/24

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair - Petitions committee

12 November 2024

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letter of 16 October on behalf of the Petitions Committee regarding Petition P-06-1439: Improve vital late night public transport infrastructure in South and South-West Wales.

I appreciate the concerns raised by the petition and value the Committee's consideration of this important matter.

We are committed to improving the public transport system in Wales and understand its importance to the economy, tourism and communities. I am pleased that Transport for Wales were able to introduce later and more frequent rail services on the Core Valley Lines in south Wales this summer. These improvements will be supported by the roll-out of brand-new trains right across Wales, boosting capacity and improving the journey experience for passengers travelling to and from events. But there is more that we would like to be able to do, including in South West Wales.

However, this is a complex matter and there are currently constraints in place across the rail and bus network in Wales which limits the Welsh Government's ability to make changes. Bus franchising will enable Transport for Wales to work with local authorities and bus operators to design a new bus network and timetable to best support the needs of local communities – including the grassroots music economy in Swansea and surrounding areas.

The Welsh Government continues to work closely with music venues through Creative Wales and we have engaged with the sector directly through regular advisory group meetings. Furthermore, we have empowered local authorities to develop Regional Transport Plans, ensuring that each region has an active role in shaping how its specific transport needs can be best met.

We will continue to work with Transport for Wales, local authorities and stakeholders to improve the public transport system in Wales.

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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.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Ken', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke above the letters.

Ken Skates AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales