

22 March 2025

Dear Mr John,

Transport for Wales - Appointment of Chair

I am applying for the exciting privilege of serving as Chair of Transport for Wales (TfW).

My Board-level experience, including as a chair, spans over 25 years and I lead with an inclusive and decisive style. I believe that this makes me well placed to lead further rapid improvements to transport on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Transport and North Wales and the wider Welsh Government, building on the excellent progress made so far led by the existing chair.

I possess deep board-level experience of motivating and supporting executive teams to be successful and accountable while bringing constructive challenge and scrutiny to their performance. My transport credentials are founded on a strong track record of delivering modern, integrated public transport and active travel networks in London, Greater Manchester and elsewhere. This includes nearly six years as an effective non-executive director of TfW where I have worked closely with the chair, CEO, fellow board members and Welsh Government officials to drive forward positive change in transport.

A particular strength I hold is the ability to publicly communicate in plain language the positive benefits of transport improvements to passengers, media and a whole range of external stakeholders. This forms a core part of my current roles as Transport Commissioner for Greater Manchester and as chair of the Board of Transport for Greater Manchester on behalf of Mayor Andy Burnham and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

I have a deep personal commitment to the ambitious vision set out by the Cabinet Secretary encapsulated in 'one network, one timetable, one ticket and one team'.

This vision places communities and customers firmly at the heart of the country's transport strategy and plans and recognises that transport is an enabler of wider economic and social outcomes set by Welsh ministers. This is inspiring. I strongly believe that better transport is core to sustainable economic growth, cross-border collaboration, improving health, creating access to homes and jobs, connecting communities and creating opportunity for every family. Drawing on my extensive experience, I can clearly see how I can lead the TfW Board and executive - drawing on all of their skills and knowledge and those of a whole range of external partners such as local authorities - to deliver better outcomes in all these areas.

I have built a comprehensive network and constructive personal relationships around the country with ministers, local authorities, businesses, consumer groups and transport operators. This means that I can also face outwards to support the executive of TfW and Welsh Government to move forward with a whole range of

game-changing innovations and to make the case for funding from UK Government. These innovations include bus franchising (recently completed under my leadership in Greater Manchester), regional development that genuinely supports the whole of Wales, transport network development, better customer service, integrated fares and ticketing to make transport more affordable and the delivery of complex capital programmes.

I have extensive commercial experience in dealing with, among others, the supply chain, Network Rail and other transport operators. I am acutely conscious too of the need for TfW to grow its way out of a very difficult revenue funding and capital investment position and to progressively reduce the financial call on Welsh Government. This needs to be achieved through a mix of increasing patronage by making transport more attractive to use, managing down TfW's costs and delivering capital programmes on time and to budget with rigorous and effective governance and controls.

I attach my cv in support of my application for this wonderful position.

Yours sincerely,

Vernon

Vernon Everitt