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Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport

TransportSecretary@dft.gsi.gov.uk

13 October 2014

Dear Patrick

I have received a number of representations recently about the importance of improving our cross border road links in Mid Wales.

Our departments have worked together in the past on plans for a bypass of the communities of Pant and Llanymynech on the A483 in Powys.

As we have now completed works to improve the A483 at nearby Four Crosses, I would be very grateful if we could reopen discussions to explore whether this bypass scheme could now be progressed.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwina Hart'.



Department
for Transport

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From the Secretary of State
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Our Ref: MC/117702

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De Edwina

Thank you for your letter of 13 October, about representations you have received about improving cross border road links in Mid Wales.

I understand the importance of cross-border investment proposals for the Welsh Government, and have been clear that Ministers and officials here are more than happy to discuss any such proposals.

In terms of investment planning, the Highways Agency (HA) are completing a programme of Route Strategies covering all of the English strategic road network. These strategies are the process by which future investment needs and plans for the network will be identified and evaluated, and I know the HA had invited Welsh Government officials to specific stakeholder events for those routes that contain cross-border roads.

Where there are priorities for investment identified by the Welsh Government on roads which have cross-border aspects, I am more than happy for the Department to work closely with the Welsh Government. In terms of the specific investment proposals for the A483, as with all our investments, there will of course need to be a strong value for money case for investment.

Could I suggest that in the first instance, your officials make contact with Elliot Shaw, Deputy Director in Strategic Roads (020 9744 4508) to arrange to explore during the next week or so, the details of the proposed investment and the Highways Agency's route strategy investment planning work.

I hope this is helpful and I have copied this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales.

*y-e
Patrick*

THE RT. HON. PATRICK McLOUGHLIN