

P-05-709 The Circuit of Wales - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Chair, 07.11.16

Dear Mike,

I have to say that your Committee's response to our petition falls far short of what was expected. We asked the Committee to call upon the Welsh Assembly to urge the Welsh Government to expedite the decision relating to the Circuit of Wales for the economic development of Blaenau Gwent, the Heads of the Valley and South Wales Generally. What appears to have happened is further prevarication and delay.

The promoters of the project were asked to put forward new proposals reducing the public sector risk to below 50% of the project cost. **My understanding is that they have now done this!** Now we have the Auditor General looking at value for money for the spend so far and suggesting that he will be looking at value for money on future spend if the project finally gets ministerial approval. Given the length of time that this project has been with the Welsh Government I find it amazing that these assessments have not already taken place. **In view of this I would ask the Committee to pass the petition to the Welsh Assembly as quickly as possible.**

One other fact that you and the Assembly should be aware of is a widely held view of people in Blaenau Gwent is that "if this project had been proposed for a location adjacent to Cardiff or the Vale of Glamorgan the first races would have taken place by now."

Finally I would ask you to pass on my thanks to your staff for their courteous and helpful assistance.

Best wishes

Don Wilcox