

Ken Skates AM  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure  
Welsh Government

16 January 2017

Dear Ken,

**Alternative perspectives on the Economic Strategy for Wales / Development Bank for Wales**

I would like to bring to your attention to some upcoming Committee work that may be of interest to you, as you develop a new economic strategy for Wales.

The aim of the work will be to lead public thinking and debate in terms of potential alternative/non-traditional perspectives towards a new economic strategy for Wales. The work will consist of a series of formal seminars where witnesses will have the opportunity to present any relevant research prior to discussion and questions from members.

If you were able to update the Committee on the timescale for the new economic strategy that would be greatly appreciated.

On another issue, following your announcement in December 2016 on the establishment of a Development Bank for Wales early in 2017, I'd be very grateful if you could update the Committee on when this is likely to happen.

Kind regards,



Russell George AM

Chair of the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee



Ken Skates AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Russell George AM  
Chair  
Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee

9 February 2017

*Dear Russell,*

The UK National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) is liaising with the Welsh Government on arrangements for engaging with stakeholders in Wales in order to help inform the commission's first National Infrastructure Assessment.

The importance of Wales' relationship with NIC has been emphasised during the consultation process for setting up our own infrastructure commission, with the EIS Committee underlining the value in its consultation response following your inquiry.

NIC would like to come to Wales to engage directly with stakeholders, suggesting a day's visit focusing on two roundtable sessions; the morning a session for politicians and the afternoon focusing on business and industry representatives.

Based on its experience of engagement to date, NIC advises that a maximum of around 40 attendees at each session works best.

I am happy with the outline arrangements for the visit, with a provisional date and location of 17 March in Wrexham, and am planning to chair the 'political' roundtable, to which I intend inviting all 22 Council Leaders.

I would welcome your views on which AMs to invite to this roundtable. Reflecting the remit of NIC, it might be most productive to invite members of the EIS Committee, the Cross Party Group on Cross Border Issues and the Cross Party Group on Sustainable Energy.

It would be very helpful to have your views by this Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Yours ever,  
Ken*

**Ken Skates AC/AM**  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400  
[Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales)

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