



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-913
Ein cyf/Our ref KS/08639/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

31 January 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 2 December regarding Petition P-05-913 - Creation of Lôn Las Môn Multi-Use Path.

Network Rail included the Welsh Government in a consultation on the proposed lease of the Gaerwen – Amlwch railway in June 2016. Network Rail confirmed that the terms of the lease would provide for a three month rolling termination provision should the line be required for any alternative rail uses (i.e., the lease could be brought to an end with 3 months' notice at any time during the lease term). The Welsh Government consultation response set out our support for the provision for termination of the lease in the event of a requirement for alternative rail uses on the basis that there were identified potential future rail passenger and/or freight uses. With these safeguards in place, the Welsh Government supported this proposed lease arrangement in light of the potential contribution to tourism in North Wales.

As part of our response to the Williams Rail Review we called for the full devolution of rail infrastructure to Welsh Government alongside a fair funding settlement. With this in place we would consider and develop proposals for improving rail connectivity as set out in our rail vision including the consideration of re-opening lines such as Gaerwen to Amlwch.

The station assessment process has been developed to ensure that a pipeline of new schemes is available to take advantage of Department for Transport funding opportunities. To date, preliminary work has been undertaken on the strength of the financial and economic case for a new station at Llangefni. It has not been recommended as a station to be taken forward for further assessment work at this stage. Further information regarding the assessment process can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-08/new-rail-stations-prioritisation-stage-2-assessment-report.pdf>

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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.

Alongside the above, for the path to be considered for development it will require inclusion in the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Integrated Network Map.

Yours sincerely,

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

Ken Skates AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy and Transport