



Our ref KSNWT/05761/24

Councillor Beca Roberts

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25 October 2024

Dear Councillor Roberts,

Thank you for your letter of 21 May regarding rail services on the Cambrian Line. I would like to apologise for the delay in responding to you.

I understand the frustration and disappointment over changes to rail services on the line. The purpose of the Transport for Wales review of Welsh and cross-border services was to better align services with post-Covid travel demand, reduce subsidy, and target future revenue growth. Transport for Wales has had to make some difficult decisions to ensure it provides capacity where it is most needed, but stakeholder engagement has been a vital element of the work.

As a result of this, Transport for Wales has made some changes which mean they are able to retain some services during the busiest summer periods. We are committed to increasing passenger numbers across Wales, but we must ensure that capacity is targeted where it is most needed. With the national roll-out of our programme, brand new trains will be used on the Cambrian Line providing greater capacity, greater comfort and accessibility as well as more reliable services. These new trains will also underpin the consistently high levels of performance we are determined to achieve across Wales, to encourage more people to use the network.

We continue to provide significant support to all modes of public transport in Mid and West Wales, directly, and through Transport for Wales resources. I recognise that the whole of Wales deserves to have a public transport system of a high standard that meets the needs of its communities, and I am determined to achieve this.

Yours sincerely

Ken Skates AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru

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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.