



To National Assembly Members.

16 February 2018

Dear Assembly Member

REVIEW OF TRAWSCYMRU ABERYSTWYTH TO CARDIFF BUS SERVICE

Before Christmas, I agreed to provide additional funding to local authorities to enable them to introduce a package of improvements to TrawsCymru bus / coach connections linking Aberystwyth – Carmarthen – Swansea - Cardiff.

Following feedback from passengers, we intend to introduce a modern wheelchair accessible high floor coach on the daily Aberystwyth to Cardiff long distance service, which will provide a more comfortable journey for longer distance passengers, complemented by the introduction of a shorter route which will offer quicker 'end to end' journey times. I can also confirm that I have agreed to a proposal for this coach service to call additionally at Port Talbot Rail Bus Interchange. A daily bus link will also be maintained between Aberystwyth – Lampeter – Carmarthen and Swansea with additional short journeys between Carmarthen – Cross Hands – Swansea being operated during the day (Weekdays and Saturdays)

I understand that the coach service will be procured on our behalf by Ceredigion County Council, and subject to the successful completion of a competitive tendering exercise, the service is anticipated to start on Monday 2 April 2018. In the meantime I have asked that the existing TrawsCymru T1C bus service be continued, until this new package of service improvements are introduced.

I have also asked that these further TrawsCymru service improvements are well publicised to passengers in advance of these changes being introduced.

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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.

If you would like any further information, please contact our TrawsCymru Network Manager David Hall on 03000 625428 or email at david.hall@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure