

Lee Waters AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Deputy Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref WQ88250

Andrew RT Davies MS
Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central

AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales

6 June 2023

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your written question: WQ88250 - What assessment has the Minister made of the data on bus ridership in Wales following the introduction of a £2 bus fare cap in England?

We are monitoring the £2 bus fare cap trial recently introduced in England very closely. As part of our Fairer Fares initiative, we have already completed a detailed review of a wider range of fare and ticketing options to make bus travel more affordable and easier to use in Wales. Unfortunately, our ability to deliver on this exciting initiative has been held back by a disappointing funding settlement for Wales from the UK Government, and the need for us to prioritise all available funding to maintain the provision of essential bus services following the ending of our Bus Emergency Funding scheme.

We recently announced £46 million of additional funding for the bus industry in Wales and while England lost 9.5% of its bus services last year, in Wales that figure was 2.4%, because of Welsh Government support.

Yours sincerely

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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.