

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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ83482

Natasha Asghar MS

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Dear Natasha,

I am writing further to your recent written question regarding the feasibility of reopening the railway line from Carmarthen to Aberystwyth.

The Aberystwyth to Carmarthen Feasibility Study published in 2018 estimated the cost of reinstatement of the line at £775m, and reinstating the line as a heavy rail route would be challenging both in terms of cost and route given subsequent development.

As rail infrastructure is not devolved, a new heavy rail link would need investment from the UK Government, while we ensure that our own investment in the infrastructure for which we are responsible maximises the impacts on modal shift and climate change. We must look at strategic options to improve connectivity that are affordable as choices will need to be made regarding what investments will have the greatest impact in tackling climate change.

Yours sincerely

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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.