**WRITTEN STATEMENT**

**BY**

**THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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| **TITLE** | **Appointment process to recruit the permanent Chair to the Transport for Wales Company Board** |
| **DATE** | **17 September 2018** |
| **BY** | **Ken Skates, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport** |

I can confirm that the process to recruit a permanent Chair to the Transport for Wales (TfW) Company Board has begun.

As set out in the Company’s Articles of Association and Management Agreement governing the relationship between the Welsh Government and TfW, the Welsh Ministers reserve the rights to appoint and dismiss directors of the TfW Company Board.

Given the high profile and expectations of the role, it is my preference that the recruitment process should follow the Public Appointments Code of Governance.

There is an opportunity to maximise on the successful procurement of the Operator & Delivery Partner for the Wales & Borders rail services to attract high calibre candidates to the role of permanent Chair. We want a leader of outstanding merit who can oversee the delivery of true transformation across our transport networks, while holding TfW to its principles to exist for people, for places and for Wales.

We are therefore looking for individuals with experience of strategic leadership at senior levels of government, academia or business in sectors of economic infrastructure (such as energy, transport, digital communications) or a related field (such as economics, planning, project/infrastructure finance, retail, engineering, technology and innovation).

A highly experienced Advisory Panel has been appointed to support the selection process comprising of the following members; Nicola Shaw CBE, Executive Director at National Grid, David Jones OBE, Chief Executive Coleg Cambria & Deeside Enterprise Zone, Geraint Davies CBE, Non-Executive Director to Cardiff Airport and Simon Jones, Director of Economic Infrastructure at Welsh Government.

The appointment of a permanent Chair to the TfW Company Board will be made when the term of the Interim Chair ends on 07 January 2019. I will update Members again when a decision has been made on a successful candidate.