



All Assembly Members

19 June 2018

Dear Member

I am writing regarding the proposed M4 to A48 link road, after this issue was raised in the Senedd during the Business Statement on 8 May.

We allocated £60,000 to the Vale of Glamorgan Council in 2017/18, under the Local Transport Fund Grant, to undertake a Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) appraisal for the provision of highway improvements from the A48 Sycamore Cross junction to junction 34 of the M4. The project is being led by the Council.

The purpose of the Stage One work was to understand the issues of concern, explore the context and present a wide list of possible solutions. This would inform a decision on whether there are any solutions within the transport sector that are worth pursuing and to select a short list of options for more detailed consideration. For information, our WelTAG guidance is available at: <https://beta.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2017-12/welsh-transport-appraisal-guidance.pdf>.

We commissioned Peter Brett Associates to assess the 'Case for Change' for addressing connectivity issues for strategic employment sites in the Vale of Glamorgan. This work was undertaken alongside the WelTAG Stage One process. The purpose of this study was to clearly demonstrate the 'Case for Change', providing a clear rationale for making an investment, its strategic fit, and how the investment will further the aims and objectives of Welsh Government and its partners.

Albeit not a statutory requirement, the Council is currently undertaking a consultation as part of the WelTAG Stage Two process. The purpose of the Stage Two work is to examine in greater detail the short list of options for tackling the problem under consideration. This is still an early stage of the project and there is opportunity to comment on the options put forward and to suggest alternatives for consideration.

The consultation has been extended and will close on 17 July. The Council is also providing the opportunity for residents to discuss the proposals in more detail with one of

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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.

their transport team if required. Further information is available at:

http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/press_and_communications/latest_news/2018/May-2018/Council-set-to-extend-M4-transport-consultation.aspx

and

http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/consultation/M4-to-A48-Transport-Network-Consultation.aspx.

Any comments on the proposals should be directed to the Council at

junction34transportstudyconsultation@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

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 Thrafnidiaeth
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport