

Ken Skates MS,
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales

3 July 2025

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Rail investment announcements in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2025

I am writing to seek clarification on several matters following the recent announcements regarding rail funding for Wales, as set out in the UK Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. I note that the UK Government has announced a total of £445 million to support rail infrastructure. In a written statement issued on 11 June, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language stated that £350 million would be made available over the Spending Review period and a further £95 million over ten years through the Infrastructure Strategy.

In light of statements made by both the UK and Welsh Governments, I would be grateful for your response to the following questions:

1. Can you provide a detailed list of all projects in the pipeline of "rail enhancement priorities identified by the Wales Rail Board", as well as details of which will be funded through the £302 million, the criteria used to prioritise these and the status of the remaining projects?
2. Could you outline how the £48 million allocation for the Core Valley Lines will be spent, including a list of projects?
3. Can you clarify the status of the £95 million allocated under the 10-year Infrastructure Strategy, including how it is expected to be phased and managed?
4. How will the further £95 million funding for rail infrastructure allocated under the Infrastructure Strategy be spent? What criteria will be used to prioritise this funding and which projects are included?



5. Is funding for Rail Infrastructure for the next decade limited to projects identified as projects that will benefit from the Infrastructure Strategy? If not, is it your expectation that further funding will be made available in future years?
6. What role will the Wales Rail Board play in future, including in the delivery of projects under the two funding streams?
7. What plans are in place for rail enhancement projects beyond the current three-year Spending Review period? Could you provide an outline of the funding needed to deliver the Welsh Government's longer-term rail strategy? How will projects that are not funded under the Infrastructure Strategy be funded?
8. How is the Welsh Government engaging with the UK Government to ensure a sustainable and equitable funding model for rail infrastructure beyond the period of this Spending Review?

The Committee would be grateful for your response to these matters.

Yours sincerely,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.