**Date issued:** 03 October 2022

**Freedom of Information Request**

We are writing in response to your Freedom of Information request. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our Data and Information Management Policy.

**You asked for the following information:**

* The timetable for milestones in progressing the works [necessary for your proposed full or partial reopening of the former railway branch line (Llantrisant Branch No. 1) which ran between Waterhall junction and Common Branch junction to rail / tram traffic] from the date of this email to the anticipated first day of train / tram running.  In particular your timescales for any proposed processes including planning permission applications / Development Consent Order or Transport and Works Act submissions / consultations with affected and interested persons  / land acquisitions etc.
* Any alterations to road infrastructure in the Fairwater area of Cardiff to allow the line to be built.
* The proposed protection for any level crossings that may be introduced to maintain established footpaths that cross the line of route in the Fairwater area of Cardiff
* The land which is affected by the works
* Dwellings and other buildings that are:
	+ Proposed for compulsory purchase and demolition.
	+ Not proposed for demolition but will be adversely affected (blighted) by the proposed line.
* I shall be further pleased if you will supply a map of the proposed line to a suitable scale that will clearly identify such property and its land boundaries on the route of the proposed line particularly in the Fairwater area.

**Having reviewed your questions, we are able to provide the following information:**

The former railway line in question is one of several route alignment options currently under consideration for the development of a new rapid transit link as part of the North West Corridor Study, the purpose of which is to deliver improved sustainable transport links between Cardiff City Centre, new housing developments at Plasdwr and land to the north of M4 Junction 33, Creigiau, Pontyclun, Talbot Green and Beddau.

The North West Corridor WelTAG Stage Report was published in February 2021 and is now in the public domain. This report outlines the reasons why improved sustainable transport links are needed and sets out a wide range of transport options to be further considered and develop, including light rail, bus rapid transit, transport interchange improvements, and improved walking and cycling links.

The North West Corridor remains an ongoing study which is still in the early stages of development, therefore the exact nature and associated timescales of the proposals it will eventually recommend are ultimately yet to be determined. Any proposals that the study does recommend will be subject to a public consultation period, and will require the approval of funding, planning and consents before they can be delivered.

To this end, we are unable to provide any further detail at this time with regards to specific infrastructure or land requirements, or on any impacts on property pertaining to any future proposals. However, further information regarding the North West Corridor proposals is readily available within the following publicly available documents:

• Cardiff Council Transport White Paper (2020)

• Cardiff Local Development Plan Constrains Map

• North West Corridor WelTAG Stage 1 Report (2021)

• The case for a Llantrisant to Cardiff Metro (2022)

Yours Sincerely,

**Transport for Wales**

**Appeal Rights**

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the Head of Freedom of Information at either Transport for Wales, 3 Llys Cdwyn, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH or freedomofinformation@tfw.wales. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner (ICO) can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or you can contact the ICO through the 'Make a Complaint' section of their website on this link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

The relevant section to select will be "Official or Public Information".