**Date issued:** 22nd of June 2023

**Freedom of Information Request** 88/23

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 US…**

1. **Could you let me know please what the Class 231 hybrid modification programme involves, and whether it has now been agreed/authorised?**
2. **Would the 231s receive pantographs for use under the OLE between Cardiff and Severn Tunnel Junction, or would they receive batteries, or both?**
3. **Also, what is the timescale of the modification programme? Will the units be modified after they leave the Rhymney line or before?**

**RESPONSE**

Question 1

The hybrid modification involves the fitting of a pantograph each of the 11 Class 231 Units. All that has been negotiated and authorised to date is an option to activate the Hybrid conversion programme at any trime before 30 April 2026.

 Question 2

Just pantographs in addition to the current specification. The fitting of a pantograph will provide greater operational flexibility in terms of routes that on which the 231 fleet can operate.

Question 3

The Hybrid conversion programme option can be activated at any time before 30 April 2026.

We hope this information is of use to you.

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".