



**Date issued:** 10 August 2020

### **Llanelli station**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) Act request of 17 July 2020. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our information access policy.

You asked how many trains a day stop at Llanelli and is it the same number that stop at Carmarthen station, also are the same facilities open (at present and after the improvements at both stations) and do you plan to employ the same number of staff at Llanelli as you currently employ at Carmarthen, if it is different why? Also, what improvements are planned for Llanelli and do those facilities already all exist within Carmarthen station.

Regarding the number of trains that stop at Llanelli compared to Carmarthen, for a typical weekday our current timetable has 45 train services stopping at Llanelli and 60 train services stopping at Carmarthen. Please keep in mind that we are not currently running a full timetable based on pre-lockdown levels. Prior to lockdown, our base timetable would have 69 train services stopping at Carmarthen, and 69 services stopping at Llanelli during a weekday. Even though the number of services is the same, these would not be passing through both stations. For example, some trains that stop at Llanelli will be servicing the Heart of Wales line and therefore would not travel to Carmarthen. These figures also do not include train services from other operators such as Great Western Railway.

Regarding current facilities at both Llanelli and Carmarthen, you can find a list of these on our website at <https://tfwrail.wales/our-network/stations>. Both stations have similar facilities, with the exception that Llanelli currently has no station parking or step free access. Carmarthen station has longer opening hours for its ticket office, however both stations have ticket vending machines available.

We are not able to provide the number of staff we employ at each station for security reasons. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, TfW is not obliged to supply the requested information as it is subject to a statutory exemption to the right of access to information under section 38 – Health and Safety. The use of this exemption is subject to an assessment of the public interest in relation to the disclosure of the information concerned. TfW recognises the need for openness and transparency within public authorities and the degree of public interest concerning the number of staff at stations. However, in this instance this is outweighed by the risks of releasing details of the number of staff at Llanelli and Carmarthen stations.

Although Llanelli station does not currently have a car park or step free access, we are committed to expanding our car parks and improving accessibility at our stations as part of our franchise. The Head of our Station Projects was unaware of the former cinema site. However, we can pass on any further information you may have on this for us to review. Our Station Project team have submitted two potential development schemes at Llanelli to our stakeholders and local authorities for their consideration. Unfortunately, until a decision has



been made on which proposal is the most suitable and feasible, we are unable to provide you with any further information on the planned improvements.

Thank you also for your feedback and suggestions regarding Llanelli station and we hope that we have been able to provide satisfactory answers to your questions. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any further queries, suggestions or comments regarding our stations and services.

Yours sincerely

Jeremy Morgan

(Head of Corporate Governance and Freedom of Information Officer)