

Date issued: 6 October 2021

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 information access policy.

You asked for the following information:

“Please can you inform me what will happen to the properties along Maes Y Ffion and Tan Y Bryn in Llwydcoed, should the reactivation of the rail network reopen? Also, can you please give us updated information on future and current plans.”

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

Following completion of a Strategic Outline Case (Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance ‘WelTAG’ Stage 1), TfW is progressing an Outline Business Case (‘WelTAG Stage 2’) for Metro options to extend passenger services beyond Aberdare to Hirwaun via Llwydcoed. There are no alignment plans at present, but it is currently envisaged the existing mothballed freight line that passes to the south of properties on Maes Y Ffion and Tan Y Bryn could be utilised. WelTAG Stage 2 requires scheme development and an appraisal of the social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts. This would then feed into a public consultation on the assessment work and its findings will inform the recommendations of a preferred option(s) to seek funding for and progress to delivery. There is no agreed timetable in place for this at present, though we estimate completion of the WelTAG Stage 2 work by end of March 2022 and public consultation to follow within two or three months of this.

At the present time, the WelTAG Stage 1 report has not been presented to the Welsh Government Cabinet and is not in the public domain. As the document has not been agreed, it remains a draft and is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (Information intended for future publication). You can find more about this exemption [here](#). WelTAG reports are typically posted on the Welsh Government and Local Authority websites (in this case, RCT).

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".