**Date issued:** 14th of December 2023

**Freedom of Information Request** 261/23

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…**

**This is a request for information relating to PHASE 1 of the Swansea Bay Area Rail Improvements programme.**

**PHASE 1 is a proposal to use the Swansea District Line for a new train service of up to four trains per hour and up to five new stations between Pontarddulais and Swansea via Neath. It is part of the Swansea Bay & West Wales Metro programme.**

**The information I am requesting is:**

**1) Copies of all feasibility studies and any other development studies for the PHASE 1 project, including cost:benefit analysis, projected rail journey times, the proposed fares structure, projected revenue and passenger numbers, projected operating costs and capital costs, and analysis of alternative options.**

**2) The cost of undertaking the above work, including work done by TfW and work done by consultancies.**

**RESPONSE**

Question 1

The WelTAG Stage 1 Report is attached.

Personal information has been exempted by virtue of the following exemption –

Section 40(2) – Personal information.

Under this exemption, personal data should not be disclosed if this would contravene the data protection principles.

Personal data is defined by the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) as follows -

**“‘personal data’ means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person”.**

**In this case, we have identified that the names of individuals is personal data AND the release of these individuals name WOULD contravene the first principle of the DPA.**

It is important to remember that disclosure of personal information under the FOI is to “the world at large”.

The key question when it comes to disclosing personal information, is what is the harm that will arise from disclosure.

The individuals in question would not have any expectation that their name would be released into the public domain.

The WelTAG 2 reports are available here: [Swansea Bay and west Wales Metro: WelTAG stage 2 report | GOV.WALES](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.wales%2Fswansea-bay-and-west-wales-metro-weltag-stage-2-report&data=05%7C02%7CFreedomofinformation%40tfw.wales%7C61442661d2ef41f5a78308dbfcae75a8%7C87dcd024301948269956ba76b2a04ff4%7C0%7C0%7C638381598448524376%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q8scgtkXhxFRbI1r15zBZqJYf8pQJPJgsD90K9zOmjo%3D&reserved=0)

WelTAG Consultation Report: [Swansea Bay and west Wales Metro | GOV.WALES](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.wales%2Fswansea-bay-and-west-wales-metro-consultation&data=05%7C02%7CFreedomofinformation%40tfw.wales%7C61442661d2ef41f5a78308dbfcae75a8%7C87dcd024301948269956ba76b2a04ff4%7C0%7C0%7C638381598448524376%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7NeJ9%2BY0LXwYdGS1%2BkvJNIVzZc9IfpG%2B6phbGxrrr8s%3D&reserved=0)

There are a number of as yet reports that have not been published publicly pertaining to the options development for the proposed stations. We are however content to make these available:

**In the next few days, you will receive an invite to join an ‘objective connect’ workspace. Due to the size of these documents, this is due to the size of the documents. They cannot be shared by email.**

We are currently working on single option selection for Landore and Cockett Stations, but these reports have not yet been drafted or published.

Question 2

Pease note the following:

* The costs below are exclusive of VAT.
* Some of the work was undertaken by local government before its transition to TfW in 2020.

2020/21 - £115,752.78

2021/22 - £155,868.91

2022/23 - £244,074.32

2023/24 - £493,912.81 (projected cost)

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](mailto: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".