



Ken Skates AM
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport
Welsh Government
5th Floor
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Our Ref: AP0042/CJH

18th December 2017

Annwyl Ken,

A483 Llandeilo bypass

Thank you for your correspondence dated 6 December in response to my letter of 20 November regarding the Llandeilo bypass.

You will recall that my correspondence to you enclosed a copy of the minutes from our meeting on 11 January 2017 (ref: DC-KS-07613-16) in which you kindly outlined a draft and indicative timetable for the project. Your response of 6 December suggests that the project is delayed, and I write today to seek clarification.

In our 11 January meeting, and noted in the minutes, your department notes that the Route Appraisal will likely be completed in summer 2017, and the process of procuring a Design and Build Contractor will likely be completed by the end of 2017.

In correspondence to a constituent of mine on 2 August 2017 (ref OC/00618/17) your Deputy Director for Infrastructure Delivery notes that the consultation associated with the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance study "is expected to commence in October and could take 6 months to complete."

Your most recent letter to me on 6 December, however, states that the stakeholder consultation associated with the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance "will commence this month and could take up to 6 months to complete."

On the face of the correspondence it would appear that work associated with this project is at best two months delayed. But when we consider the appraisal was to be complete in summer 2017, is yet to get underway and could take up to 6 months, the entire Llandeilo bypass project could see a 10 month delay compared to the timetable you indicated to me at our January meeting.

Page 1 of 2

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

37 Stryd y Gwynt, Rhydaman,
Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA18 3DN
Adam.Price@cynulliad.cymru
www.cynulliad.cymru
01269 597 677

National Assembly for Wales

37 Wind Street, Ammanford,
Carmarthenshire, SA18 3DN
Adam.Price@assembly.wales
www.assembly.wales
01269 597 677



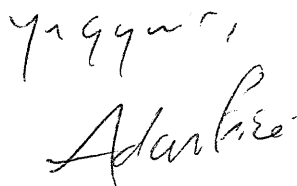
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Given the Llandeilo bypass has been on the agenda for over 50 years with many promises made and broken in the past, I am sure you will appreciate why many of my constituents are sceptical as to whether the budget agreement made between our parties will be honoured by the Welsh Government. Regrettably the delays will do little to give my constituents confidence that the bypass will indeed be delivered.

I would be grateful to receive clarification of the work which has been completed to date and whether you will commit to ensuring construction of the bypass will commence in 2019 as planned.

I would be grateful if you would clarify whether the Design and Build Contractor has been procured and, if not, when you expect this to be completed. Furthermore, I would also be grateful if you would confirm whether it is still your intention to publish the Draft Orders by the end of next year.

Thank you in advance of your assistance. I look forward to your prompt response.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Price'.

Adam Price AC/AM

Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr / Carmarthen East & Dinefwr