

April 25, 2024

Dear

ATISN 20407 Global Centre of Rail Excellence

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 9th April 2024. You asked for:

Clarification on whether the procurement process, which was initiated and managed by the Global Centre of Rail (GCRE Ltd) was completed in autumn 2023.

Further to this you asked the following questions:-

- if it was completed then, did it identify private investors prepared to become majority owners of GCRE Ltd on terms acceptable to the Welsh Government?
- if so, when will the names of these investors be published?
- if it did not identify suitable private investors, what is the new target date for finding suitable private investors?
- what is the target date for GCRE Ltd becoming majority owned by a private investor(s)?

Our response

The public procurement process was not completed in the autumn of 2023 as intended and so it did not identify private investors prepared to become majority owners of GCRE Ltd on terms acceptable to the Welsh Government.

The new target date for finding suitable private investors is the end of the 2024/25 financial year. This is also the target date for GCRE Ltd becoming majority owned by a private investor(s).

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit
Welsh Government
Cathays Park

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely