



1 April 2019

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 13000

I wrote to you on 5 March regarding your request for information. Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing you with this response. You asked for:

- 1. Details, namely the scope of work, bid proposals, process of appointment and costs for the appointment of Professor Mark Barry to undertake rail studies for the Welsh Government since 2005, in particular the two studies he undertook titled The Case for Rail Investment.**

I confirm we hold some information relevant to your request, which relates to 5 specific rail reports.

Report 1

For the period 2005 – 2013, M&G Barry Consulting was commissioned to undertake one rail report for the Welsh Government, in April 2011. The cost of this work was £8,783.00. The scope of the report, titled Welsh Government Rail Vision, is as follows:

- *Work with transport team to:*
 - *develop a wider vision for a Cardiff/Newport/Valleys Metro*
 - *define the scope for the business case for valleys electrification; this to include all the potential +ve impacts (economic, regenerative, transport, etc.), that can be realised*
 - *sketch out how both the wider vision and the valleys electrification in particular can be progressed and delivered*

Reports 2 and 3 : The Case for Rail Investment – North and South Wales



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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding .

Welsh Government commissioned Transport for Wales to undertake the studies. Professor Barry was appointed by the consultant who supported Transport for Wales with this work. The Welsh Government does not, therefore, hold any information regarding the procurement process or costs incurred in the appointment of Professor Barry. We do, however, hold the scope of the work. Please note that the scope did not entail him doing all the work for these studies/reports. Professor Barry was asked to provide strategic input/leadership to the teams of consultants engaged by Transport for Wales and was therefore part of a bigger team.

The work was combined into two 'Programme Strategic Outline Cases' for North Wales and South Wales which is summarised in the published Case for Rail Investment documents. The scope of work was:

- **A - North Wales Journey times;** connections to Crewe/HS2, Chester station, etc. and connectivity to the rest of the UK with a focus on economic impacts
- **B - Rail Connectivity enhancement to support economic growth in NE Wales** and between NE Wales and Cheshire/Merseyside (with a focus on Wrexham Bidston) to support more economic development across the region
- **C - South Wales Main Line;** faster more frequent services, more capacity between Swansea, Cardiff, Bristol and London/Heathrow, all aimed at delivering economic benefits to complement HS2 (the relief lines and Felindre intercity P&R to be considered in this context)
- **D - Better utilisation of rail infrastructure in Swansea Bay;** including consideration of additional infrastructure to improve connectivity and enhance the economy of the entire Swansea Bay City Region (Felindre as local P&R to be considered)

Reports 4 and 5

Following the completion of Reports 2 and 3, above, transport for Wales was commissioned to undertake further work. Again, Professor Barry was appointed by the consultant who supported Transport for Wales with this work. The Welsh Government does not, therefore, hold any information regarding the procurement process or costs incurred in the appointment of Professor Barry. We do, however, hold the scope of the work, as below. Again, as noted above, please note that the scope did not entail him doing all the work for these studies/reports. Professor Barry was asked to provide strategic input/leadership to the teams of consultants engaged by Transport for Wales and was therefore part of a bigger team.

- *To support and prepare briefings to Ministers on PSOC and other related matters (e.g. potential consultation).*
- *To provide guidance on programme of work to follow the PSOCs.*
- *To support Welsh Government to prepare for submission to Williams review.*
- *To support work to develop Welsh Transport Strategy.*
- *To support development of strategic planning in respect of Metro schemes in Wales. (South Wales, Swansea and North Wales) and other as required.*
- *To take a lead role to support Swansea Council and the programme being established around the development of the Swansea Metro.*
- *To develop and agree scope of potential "Transport Research Centre".*

Other relevant information

For a period of two years, from November 2013, Professor Barry was seconded to the Welsh Government. No specific rail studies were undertaken during this time and therefore no information is held in this regard. He did, however, undertake some studies in relation to the South Wales Metro, which are available to view on the Welsh Government [website](#): South Wales Metro Update, August 2014; and also a South Wales Metro brochure which describes our project to improve the public transport network of Cardiff capital region. There is no scope of works or costs for these studies as they formed a part of the secondment arrangement.

Prior to Professor Barry's secondment in 2013, M&G Barry Consulting was part of a team of consultants commissioned by Welsh Government to draft the South Wales Metro Impact Study.

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, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ
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