

The Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP
Secretary of State for Transport
UK Government

The Rt Hon Jo Stevens MP
Secretary of State for Wales
UK Government

30 September 2025

Dear Heidi and Jo,

Global Centre of Rail Excellence

On 18 September the Committee visited the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE) on the Neath Port Talbot-Powys border. The GCRE presented a vision with the Centre driving economic regeneration for the area, and the potential to create secure, well-paid jobs in an area affected by deindustrialisation.

They explained this would be a unique facility that could be instrumental to rail technology development not just in Wales and the UK but for all of Europe and possibly even further afield. However, they also explained the considerable investment the project still requires to bring that vision to fruition.

The Committee believes this project has the potential to be a project which would support British innovation, and notes that the previous UK Government provided £20 million funding towards the project. As such we resolved to write to you to ask what consideration the UK Government has given to further supporting the project either directly or in the form of support to help them bring in the investment they require?



I have copied this letter to Ken Skates, the Welsh Government's Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew RT Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with some capital letters.

Andrew RT Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

CC: Ken Skates MS, Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales, Welsh Government

