



**SWWITCH**

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e.bost:

William Powell AM  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CARDIFF  
CF99 1NA

Your ref:                      Our ref:  
Eich Cyf:                      Ein Cyf:

Direct Line: 01267 224647    Date: 11/11/13

This matter is being dealt with by: Richard  
Workman  
Trafodir y mater hwn gan: Director of Technical  
Services, Carmarthenshire County Council,  
County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1LZ

Dear William,

**PETITIONS COMMITTEE – REVISION TO CONCESSIONARY FARES SCHEME**

Thank you for your letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October and SWWITCH notes the petition from Mr Mark Griffiths. This petition seeks to move away from the current situation where free concessionary bus travel is available to all citizens aged over 60 in Wales (and also to those with some mobility issues) to one which is targeted at needy residents of any age.

SWWITCH is keen to see more people using public transport to access a wide range of services and facilities including employment, training, health care and social and leisure activities.

The current all Wales scheme costs in excess of £70m per annum and this funding is currently under review. It is highly unlikely that the range of beneficiaries could be extended without moving the current universal benefit to a system where applicants are means tested, or the benefit is restricted in some way.

That would be a political decision and it is not appropriate for SWWITCH to comment further on the benefits or otherwise of any such decision.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Workman**  
**SWWITCH Lead Chief Officer**