

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref

Nick Ramsay AM
Chair, Enterprise & Business
Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

28 January 2014

Dear Nick

I thought it would be helpful to update the Committee in respect of recent correspondence that the Welsh Government has had with the European Commission about TEN-T and the port of Holyhead.

The Commission have noted that, although Holyhead is a Comprehensive port and not a Core port, they would be supportive of projects that looked to improve connectivity across the Irish Sea.

The Commission have drawn particular attention to the 'Motorways of the Sea' horizontal priority under the new Connecting Europe Facility financial framework (CEF), which provides for projects that involve at least one Core port from another Member State and which improve connectivity. Commission officials have said that they would welcome bids to CEF for projects aimed at enhancing Holyhead's connectivity across the Irish Sea with Dublin, which is a Core Port.

I have asked my officials to follow up this opportunity, and a wider portfolio of potential projects, with the Commission and other partners in order to make the most of the investment opportunities offered by being on the TEN-T network and to secure support for projects in Wales.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edwina Hart'.