



Leanne Hatcher
Clerk to the PAC Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

21st May 2015

Dear Ms Hatcher

Moving Forwards: Improving Strategic Transport Planning in Wales

I understand that during the fifth evidence session of its Inquiry into Value for Money of Motorway and Trunk Road Investment (on 21st April 2015) a member of the Public Accounts Committee cited a short passage from the report on strategic transport planning, which was published by the Public Policy Institute for Wales last November, and that this was interpreted as questioning the robustness of WelTAG.

The purpose of our report was to examine the international evidence about effective approaches to strategic transport planning and highlight any lessons that Wales might learn from these. It was, therefore, focused at a strategic level and concerned with policies and plans rather than the application of particular approaches to specific programmes and projects.

The author, Professor Preston, based his observations about WelTAG on the Stage 1 application by AECOM to the National Transport Plan in 2010. He has since written confirming that they do not apply to Stage 2 WelTAG applications at a project level, which are largely based on WebTAG.

I apologise for any confusion which the wording of his report may have caused and trust that this clarifies for members of the committee the context and scope of Professor Preston's analysis.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Martin'.

Professor Steve Martin