



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**WRITTEN ASSEMBLY QUESTION
FOR ANSWER BY
THE CABINET SECRETARY FOR ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT
ON 12 JANUARY 2018**

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the impact of flooding on the Conwy Valley Railway Line, and explain what measures the Welsh Government are taking to ensure the line's long term viability? (WAQ75524)

Ken Skates: I recognise the impact that recent flooding has had on the line, with closures caused directly by flooding and related damage. I also note the importance of the provision of a good quality, well publicised and signposted rail replacement bus service when the line is shut. There is a need for Network Rail Wales Route to work to deliver greater resilience on the line, but I am also grateful for the hard work they continue to put in to re-open the line following flooding.

We have provided ongoing revenue support for the Conwy Valley Rail Initiative, the Community Rail partnership which promotes the line between Llandudno and Blaenau Ffestiniog and the many attractions along the route. This support will continue under the forthcoming Wales and Borders contract, where we have stipulated a number of requirements for the new operator to support and report on community rail initiatives and station adoption on an ongoing basis. The new rail services contract will deliver an improved quality of service for rail passengers across Wales and Borders, including the Conwy Valley Line.
