



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ92839

Andrew R.T. Davies
Welsh Parliament
AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales

10 June 2024

Dear Andrew,

I am writing in response to your written question: Will the Cabinet Secretary outline the rationale behind not providing any funding to Tata Steel since 2019? (WQ92839)

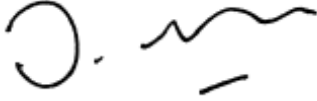
The Welsh Government was not party to talks on the agreement reached last year between Tata Steel UK (TSUK) and the UK Government on the Company's plans to transition to lower-carbon steelmaking. This effectively blocked our ability to be part of this deal including the ability to contribute financially.

The Company has not requested any grant funding from the Welsh Government since 2019. However, we have continued to invest in Tata's apprentice recruitment. Over the five-year period between contract years 2018/19 and 2022/23 the Welsh Government has funded over a thousand apprenticeship starts across Tata sites in Wales, attracting an apprenticeship investment for those in learning of over £9 million. We are currently supporting over 290 Tata Steel apprentices across Wales and are committed to working with the Company to protect these apprentices and other young people employed by Tata Steel.

The Welsh Government is already making available support through its employability and upskilling programmes, which has been increased in light of the Tata decision, and it will enable support to be provided to eligible workers both at Tata and its supply chain.

In our engagement between the Company and UK Government we have been clear that we were, and still are, prepared to do all we can within our devolved responsibilities to support TSUK and its workforce.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of wavy lines and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a'r Gymraeg
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Welsh Language