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Our Ref: AngelRoad.Consultation

Date: 22 August 2018

Dear Tim

## **PROPOSAL TO CLOSE ANGEL ROAD RAILWAY STATION**

Network Rail has notified the Department for Transport that it proposes to close Angel Road station upon opening a new station nearby to be called Meridian Water.

Under section 29(7)(a) of the Railways Act 2005, the Secretary of State, as the relevant railway funding authority, is required to carry out a consultation concerning any proposal to discontinue the use of a station. The consultation will run from 22 August to 21 November 2018.

Meridian Water station, is currently under construction approximately 580 metres to the south-west of Angel Road station. On commissioning, services that currently stop at Angel Road station will stop at Meridian Water station.

Following the Railways Closures Guidance 2006, Network Rail, as network operator, has carried out an initial assessment of whether retaining Angel Road station as part of the national rail network represents value for money. Network Rail concluded that closing Angel Road station and opening a new station at Meridian Water offered better value for money. It is proposed that, subject to successful completion of the closure process, Angel Road will be closed when Meridian Water is opened, on or after 19 May 2019.

Retaining Angel Road as well as opening Meridian Water would reduce track capacity, increase journey times along the West Anglia Main Line and increase operating costs. Additionally, Angel Road is poorly positioned to best serve both the existing community and the future Meridian Water development scheme.

Meridian Water station will have improved facilities for passengers as well as better integration with the proposed transport hub on Meridian Way. Unlike

Angel Road station, step-free access will be provided to all platforms and to street level.

The consultation document may be viewed on the Department for Transport's website at [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open) and this also provides detail of how to respond on this matter.

I also attach a copy of the consultation document and the closure notice.

Yours sincerely



**ANDREW JOHNSON**