



Department
for Transport

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Dear Stephen

Thank you for your letter of 13 October to Chris Grayling about the devolution of rail services in London. I am replying as Minister responsible for transport in London.

I value your comments on London rail devolution and the TfL proposals for suburban rail services.

As you are of course aware, the Mayor has submitted a business case for running London suburban rail services. We will now consider this and whether it will improve services for all passengers, including longer distance commuters. We will also need to understand how the Mayor intends to fund his proposals.

For this reason I was pleased to read that your support is predicated on benefits for all passengers, including long distance commuters.

I also found much to agree with in your annex on 'Essential passenger safeguards to ensure successful and fair devolution of rail services'. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. It is quite right that all passengers, regardless of where they are travelling to and from, have their interests protected. We must ensure that this would truly be the outcome of TfL's proposals. It is also clear to me that regular and meaningful dialogue with passengers and stakeholders is an important feature of providing rail services.

In closing I would like to assure you that a decision on the TfL business case will be made in due course.

*Yours sincerely,
Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon*

LORD (TARIQ) AHMAD OF WIMBLEDON