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Sir Peter Hendy CBE
Chair
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
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28 June 2021

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your letter notifying us of the motion passed at the plenary meeting of the London Assembly on 10 June.

We share the Assembly's sadness about the death of Cleveland Gervais at Eden Park station in February 2019. This was a terrible accident that shouldn't have happened, and our thoughts remain with Mr Gervais' family and friends.

It's vital that all our passengers can travel safely, independently and with confidence. We fully accept the recommendations of the Rail Accident Investigation Branch into the Eden Park incident and recognise the important role that tactile warning strips at platform edges could have played in preventing this tragedy, and can play in stopping similar events from occurring.

Currently, almost sixty per cent of stations (239 of 406) in Greater London have tactile strips installed, increasing to seventy per cent when the remaining 47 stations on our Kent and Sussex routes (covering the lines into Charing Cross, Victoria, London Bridge and Cannon Street) have tactile strips installed. We're working urgently with the Department for Transport (DfT) to release the £10 million for this first tranche of work.

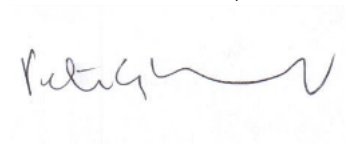
But we know we must go further and faster to complete the remaining 120 stations in London, and all those across the country without tactiles. So we're also working urgently with the DfT to develop a programme for these remaining stations sooner than our currently planned date of the end of 2029. Discussions on funding and the timetable are already underway.

To support this work, each of our five regions has appointed a specific lead to review stations in their area, so we can determine how we should prioritise which stations receive tactile strips, and in what order.

Our regional leads expect to present their initial delivery plan to the DfT for priority sites by the end of the summer, so funding for this work can then be agreed. Given the London Assembly's interest in this issue, we will update you again when the next phase is agreed.

I hope this demonstrates our clear commitment to making sure our network is safe and accessible for all our passengers, and that we are working to do this as soon as possible. Anthony Dewar, our head of buildings and architecture, who is overseeing this programme (copied in), would be pleased to answer any further questions you have at this stage.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Peter Hendy', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

Sir Peter Hendy CBE
Chair

cc: Anthony Dewar, Head of Buildings and Architecture