



Department for Transport

Andrew Boff AM
Chair of the London Assembly
City Hall
Kamal Chunchie Way
London
E16 1ZE

Baroness Vere of Norbiton
Minister for Roads, Buses and Places

Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000
E-Mail: baroness.vere@dft.gov.uk

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

Our Ref: MC/393685

16 March 2022

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your email of 8 March to the Secretary of State, asking for a response to the London Assembly's motions as agreed on 3 March 2022, about the Guardians of the Arches and Funding for Transport for London (TfL). I am replying as the Minister responsible for this.

Motion 3 about the Guardians of the Arches refers to support for TfL's business tenants. I take note of the concerns expressed, but as transport in London is devolved, it is up to the Mayor and TfL to decide which projects they wish to prioritise and support.

Regarding Motion 8, the Assembly noted its belief that "London's transport network would benefit from the security of a long-term funding agreement". The Government has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to supporting London's transport network throughout the pandemic, with close to £5 billion of emergency funding support since May 2020, at a time of significant pressure on the national finances.

On 25 February, the Government agreed a fourth extraordinary funding and financing package for TfL worth around £200m. This will ensure the continued running of London's transport network as we recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. We are also considering a longer-term capital settlement.

All funding support must represent value for money for taxpayers across the UK which is why we are seeking commitment from the Mayor to accelerate crucial reforms that will ensure TfL becomes financially sustainable.

The Assembly also called for publication of the 'KPMG report'. As part of the first extraordinary funding settlement from May 2020, TfL agreed to assist the Department for Transport in a Government Led Review of TfL's existing Business Plan, with additional options to improve TfL's financial position over the short and medium term.

The KPMG report in this Government Led Review continues to inform the negotiations on funding and financing between TfL and the Government. This includes discussions over funding packages agreed in October 2020, June 2021 and most recently on 25 February 2022, as well as consideration of what further support may be required.

The KPMG report has not been released, as it is important to protect the integrity of the live policymaking process with regard to TfL's business plan and financial position, and to prevent disclosures which would undermine this process and result in less robust, well-considered or effective policies. Good government depends on good decision-making and this needs to be based on the best advice available and a full consideration of all the options without fear of premature disclosure.

Thank you for writing in with your concerns.

*Yours,
Charlotte*

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON