

MAYOR OF LONDON

Caroline Russell AM

By email

Date: 26th June 2020

Dear Caroline

Thank you for your email of 16 June regarding the Cremorne Bridge and toilet availability across the TfL network.

Following a request from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for 'shovel ready' capital projects, Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL) compiled a targeted list which was submitted for consideration on 18 June. You'll appreciate that these projects span more than transport projects so not every potential project could be included. The final list of projects was chosen on the basis that they directly meet MHCLG's objectives of driving up jobs and economic growth and supporting a green recovery, and they therefore stand the greatest chance of receiving funding. I am afraid that the Cremorne footbridge was not included in the list.

I appreciate you drawing my attention again to the case for a new footbridge in this location. I know you are a passionate advocate for this scheme, and I welcome your commitment to increasing active travel not just here but across London. As you know, west London is relatively well served by river crossings while in the east end the river is a much bigger barrier. That's why the Mayor's Transport Strategy focusses on improving cross river connectivity east of Tower Bridge. TfL continues to offer technical support for the Cremorne bridge scheme, but it is the responsibility of the bridge promoters to secure the required funding.

You also ask in your letter for an update on the status of plans to provide a fast ferry service connecting Rotherhithe with Canary Wharf and broader plans for other ferry services in this part of the city. TfL has developed initial designs for the new service including new accessible piers at Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf, new low-emission vessels, and a turn-up-and-go style operating model. TfL was planning to launch a public consultation on this work and begin the process to procure suppliers to build and operate the scheme this summer. Like many projects, this work has been paused while TfL seeks to reduce expenditure and focus efforts on the response to, and recovery from, the coronavirus crisis. I can assure you that this project remains part of TfL's long-term plans. I remain firmly of the view this could form an exemplar for more cross-river walking and cycling connections in east London.

Finally, you raise the important issue of the need for more public toilets to support active travel and public health. I agree that it is vitally important for public toilets to be readily available at all times of day, particularly for those with children, older people and people with disabilities. As lockdown measures are eased and more journeys are undertaken across London, TfL is looking at how it can improve the availability of toilets at stations. This will include reviewing how toilets facilities can be managed effectively and in line with the current government guidance so that customers can use them safely. Information about toilet facilities on the TfL network is published online at <http://content.tfl.gov.uk/toilets-map.pdf>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me on these important issues.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heidi Alexander', with a stylized, flowing script.

Heidi Alexander

Deputy Mayor for Transport