

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Valerie Shawcross CBE AM**

City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

**Our ref: MGLA211015-7443**

**Date: 18 NOV 2015**

Dear Val

**Re: Devolving rail services in London: Towards a South London Metro**

Thank you for your letter of 16 October about the report which the Transport Committee published on the same day entitled 'Devolving Rail Services to London: Towards a South London Metro' and for sending me a copy of this report.

As you know, I have long campaigned for Transport for London (TfL) to have greater involvement in London's railway. I fully believe that through partnership working, we can achieve a consistently high level of customer service, and ensure that the railway gets the vital investment it needs to support growth in London and the South East.

The work of the Transport Committee is very much appreciated in building a strong case for this and I would like to thank you for the support and comments that you have provided in your letter. I have shared your letter with Gareth Powell, Director of Strategy at London Underground and Chief Operating Officer for London Rail at TfL, who will review your comments in detail and ensure that a full response is provided to you and Richard Berry by the end of this year.

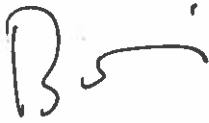
To update you on discussions with Kent County Council (KCC), further to your evidence session of 9 June, my officers have been working with counterparts at KCC to develop the assurances that are necessary to meet KCC's 'red lines'. I am pleased to be able to tell you that subsequently Paul Carter, the leader of KCC, and I have exchanged letters in which those assurances are set out, and in which he expresses support for railway services in southeast London to transfer to TfL management, including some services that operate a short way over the boundary into Kent. I attach copies of those letters for your information.

I continue to discuss the future of railways in London and the South East on a regular basis with the Secretary of State for Transport, the Department for Transport and Network Rail. Good progress is being made and I would be happy to arrange for TfL officers to brief you in more detail on this. Please could I suggest that you contact James Tringham, TfL Senior Corporate Communications Manager, by email at [jamestringham@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:jamestringham@tfl.gov.uk) to arrange this.

# MAYOR OF LONDON

Thank you again for writing to me.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'B' followed by a horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.

**Boris Johnson**  
Mayor of London