



Lord Andrew Adonis
Chair - National Infrastructure Commission
HM Treasury
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Dear Lord Adonis

We are writing to express support for Crossrail 2 from local authorities across London, the wider South East and East. Crossrail 2 is a major piece of transport infrastructure that will support the substantial growth experienced in our collective area and will bring significant housing, economic and regeneration benefits. We are certain that Crossrail 2 is vital to ensure our transport infrastructure can continue to cope with demand and believe the benefits will be:

- Improved public transport connectivity in key opportunity areas, driving regeneration, economic growth and new housing opportunities.
- Significant new capacity for already congested routes, and by diverting commuters onto Crossrail 2 freeing up capacity for longer-distance train services in east and south east England.
- High Speed 2 is properly integrated into the region's transport network.
- Much improved connectivity and capacity over a wide area. TfL believes benefits will be experienced from Surrey and Hampshire in the south to Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire in the north, extending as far as the East Midlands.

As Leaders of local authorities in London, the south east of England and east of England, we want to work with the National Infrastructure Commission and government to secure:

- Commitment by government to Crossrail 2, together with adequate Parliamentary time to ensure that construction of Crossrail 2 can commence in 2020.
- Commitment by government and Transport for London (TfL) to continue to work with us to ensure we get the most benefits from this scheme. This could include working on further branches and extensions, for example stretching the line as far as Woking and examining the case for an extension to Dorking; examining the potential to extend four-tracking of the West Anglia Mainline to Harlow and extending the route to east London to support the 'city of the east'.

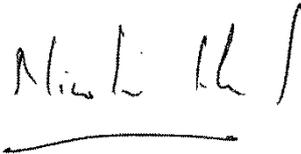
- A commitment by central government to contribute towards the funding of Crossrail 2, together with examining further the use of stamp duty receipts. London has always committed to contribute financially to Crossrail 2 as it has done with Crossrail. Local authorities in the south east and east of England are willing to explore how their areas could contribute, in return for greater flexibility and financial freedoms which will allow them to raise the necessary funds.

We want the National Infrastructure Commission to set out its support for Crossrail 2 when it reports to government before the Budget 2016.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Claire Kober, Infrastructure Portfolio holder and vice chair of London Councils



Cllr Nicolas Heslop, Chairman South East England Councils



Cllr Jason Ablewhite, Chairman of the East of England LGA

London Councils represents London's 32 borough councils and the City of London.

South East England Councils (SEEC) represents county, unitary and district councils in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Surrey, East & West Sussex and Kent.

The East of England LGA is a membership organisation of the district and county councils in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk and the unitary councils of Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Peterborough, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.