

Heads of Transport for London and
Network Rail

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Dear

Re: Crossrail 2

Surrey County Council strongly supports Crossrail 2. I would like to advocate the regional option as the scheme most likely to boost economic growth and benefit the travelling public in Surrey and across Southern England.

While fully supporting the regional option, Surrey would expect to see no loss of service or declines in frequency of service to Central London from any station in Surrey as a result of Crossrail 2. To ensure this, and given the importance of Crossrail 2 for Surrey's economy, we would welcome more active involvement in the project, including dialogue on which stations receive a direct Crossrail 2 service, and a place on any committees or project boards established to oversee the scheme.

I believe that Crossrail 2 is an opportunity for Surrey. As such it is a priority in the Surrey Rail Strategy. This strategy recognises that to maintain global competitiveness, drive economic growth, reduce impacts on the environment and accommodate sustainable population growth Surrey needs good rail connections and world class rail infrastructure. Crossrail 2 is exactly the type of scheme needed to meet these goals.

Surrey is a large and strong economy with a Gross Value Added in excess of £30 billion. The county benefits significantly from major international gateways, particularly the airports, and from proximity to London and associated road and rail connections. However, Surrey's very success creates a significant challenge to its global competitiveness because investment in critical infrastructure lags behind the need generated by strong growth.

By increasing capacity on the South West Main Line and enabling additional trains into London Waterloo, Surrey residents and businesses will benefit from more frequent, less crowded and faster services. This would bring economic benefits to Surrey including key economic hubs such as Woking and Guildford. Crossrail 2 is also important because it will facilitate further infrastructure improvements with implications for communities in Surrey. This includes the Woking flyover and Sturt Lane Chord.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

David Hodge
Leader of the Council

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