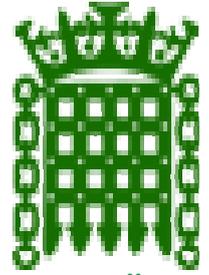




All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group

House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
Light Rail & Trams, Affordable & Sustainable Transport

"The past we inherit, the future we build ourselves"



"TramTrain does it Greener and Cheaper on lightly used railway lines and in the streets"

Chair welcomes Northern Transport Strategy but calls for funding commitment



20 March 2015

Louise Ellman MP, Chair of the Transport Committee, welcomes Northern Transport Strategy but calls for a commitment on funding.

Speaking in response to the publication of Northern Transport Strategy, Louise Ellman MP, Chair of the Transport Committee said:

"I welcome the Northern Transport Strategy but I am concerned that there is no commitment to funding. Ministers must clarify when there will be real improvements to overcrowded and slow rail services between our major northern cities. Transport for the North must be clear that the proposals to "simplify" rail fares in the north will not be used as a way of increasing fares by the back door—as proposed last year in the consultation on the Northern Rail franchise.

These meetings are by invitation only, where MPs, Stakeholders etc., within the Light Rail industry and invited members of the Public will have a chance to discuss debate and raise questions concerning Light Rail.

Supported by



Secretariat provided by
Light Rail (UK)
Warrington, Cheshire, England,
United Kingdom WA2 8TX
Tel 01925 243500, Fax 01925 243000, 07721378223
Mr Jim Harkins FCILT
Email applrguk@aol.com www.applrguk.co.uk

Supported by

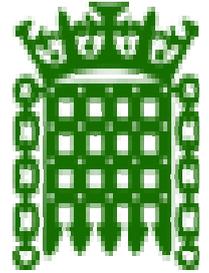




All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group

House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
Light Rail & Trams, Affordable & Sustainable Transport

"The past we inherit, the future we build ourselves"



"TramTrain does it Greener and Cheaper on lightly used railway lines and in the streets"

I am pleased that the Government has accepted the Transport Committee's repeated recommendations for greater integration between HS2 and the conventional rail network; and for route-based transport strategies that address all modes of travel. Today's announcement is a sign that the Government accepted that this approach will bring the maximum benefits for rail passengers, motorists and for freight.

I welcome the move to greater devolution but Ministers must clarify how the new arrangements will ensure that the needs of the city regions don't dominate and obscure the needs of smaller towns and rural areas that also need the economic benefits of improved transport.

East-West connectivity by road and rail is not just an issue in the North: as motorists and rail passengers in the Midlands and East Anglia know all too well. As my Committee has recommended, the Government must make clear how it will improve east-west connectivity across the country."

Committee's recommendation

Recommendation 19 of the Transport Committee's [Investing in the railway Report](#), published on 23 January 2015, stated:

"We welcome the proposals to improve East-West connectivity. We call for clarity on whether these proposals will be truly East-West: extending from Hull to Liverpool, with the benefits that would bring for freight and passenger rail. It is also not at all clear whether these proposals—HS3 as the Chancellor has referred to them—will entail a new line or improvements to existing lines.

The Department should clarify this point, and also make clear what long-term objectives it has for improving East-West connectivity across the country."

Further information

[About Parliament: Select Committees](#)

[Visiting Parliament: Watch committees](#)

These meetings are by invitation only, where MPs, Stakeholders etc., within the Light Rail industry and invited members of the Public will have a chance to discuss debate and raise questions concerning Light Rail.

Supported by



Secretariat provided by
Light Rail (UK)

Warrington, Cheshire, England,
United Kingdom WA2 8TX

Tel 01925 243500, Fax 01925 243000, 07721378223

Mr Jim Harkins FCILT

Email aplrjuk@aol.com www.aplrjuk.co.uk

Supported by

