

24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Michael Gove MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter regarding public transport links from your constituency to Heathrow. I appreciate this is an issue which affects both passengers and colleagues working at the airport.

Your support for the proposed Western and Southern rail links is much appreciated, as is your letter to the Secretary of State for Transport. We are keen to see both of these projects built and have been working with all levels of government to help progress them. Whilst these projects do take time, it's important that elected representatives such as yourself continue to raise the issue to expedite the decision-making process.

Our *Surface Access Proposals*, issued as part of our recent statutory Airport Expansion Consultation takes into account the development of local bus routes. It outlines how we will work with operators to deliver new services and where necessary, provide financial assistance. It also highlights the A30 corridor to Camberley as an area in which we would like to develop a new bus service to Heathrow. We will be reviewing feedback on these proposals as we finalise our Surface Access Strategy.

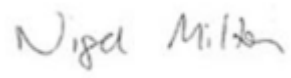
Significant public transport improvements are being introduced ahead of expansion. In July this year, a new daily coach service began between Guildford and Heathrow. In August, the X442 bus between Staines Railway and Heathrow Terminal 5 commenced. This connects with trains from Camberley and Bagshot, bringing journey times to Heathrow down to approximately 1 hour for most of the day, including peak times. We are hopeful that South Western Railway will introduce through-ticketing between their stations and Heathrow via Staines soon.

Heathrow's Bus Strategy Manager would be happy to discuss any suggestions or proposals that would work for your constituents as well as meeting with the Council. Please let me know the relevant person(s) to contact and I will pass these details on to our team.

In addition, we are working with the Department for Transport and Highways England to see if we can utilise motorway service stations as 'park and ride' locations. The M3 near Camberley could be a good location to test this concept and that's also something that we can explore with the authority's representatives. Sending passengers in consolidated loads from these points would reduce emissions and car traffic on the strategic network closer to Heathrow.

Thank you for taking such a constructive approach towards this vital policy area. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure the journeys that your constituents take to Heathrow become ever more easy and sustainable.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Nigel Milton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nigel Milton  
Director of Communications