



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Our ref: BR15673/AP

19 January 2015

Dear Patrick,

**Nottingham Express Transit: Phase Two Project**

Further to our conversation last week I am writing to update you on the progress of the tram line in Broxtowe, which you kindly visited last year.

The line to Toton will not be completed until the end of the summer with rumours that it will be almost a year late. The poor management of the project and lack of information continues.

The adverse effect on traders and residents is considerable and I am particularly concerned about the future of a number of shops and businesses. For example the Humber Road Chippy is on the verge of bankruptcy notwithstanding the responsible planning for the tram works undertaken by the owner. He planned his finances on the basis the tram works would have been completed in December. He made adjustments when it became clear the team would over run to June. Now he has run out of credit and savings. His business is not within the relevant "zones" so he has no access to the hardship fund I negotiated. There is no debate - his takings have fallen by two thirds due to the closure of his road to through traffic and the works, quite literally, on his doorstep.

In my view any infrastructure project needs to be clear on compensation not only for affected businesses but also for residents. Residents living on the tram route, notably in Beeston and Chilwell, have undoubtedly been denied the right to the peaceful enjoyment of their property.

It is my firm belief that in any major undertaking of this nature, there needs to be clear guidance on compensation not only for affected businesses but also for local residents. For some residents in my constituency, I have no doubt that the tram works have denied their Right to peaceful enjoyment of property.

*Anna Soubry, Member of Parliament for Broxtowe*

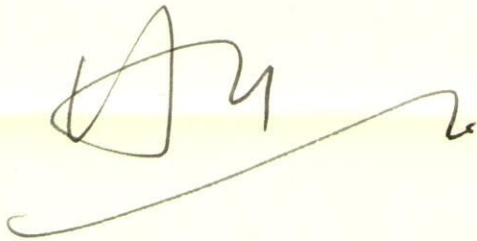
Constituency Office: 61 High Road, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 4AJ

Tel: 0115 943 6507 E-mail: [anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk) Website: [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk)

As we discussed when you came to Beeston it is imperative we learn lessons from the construction of the tram through my constituency. A public inquiry would not be appropriate but an independent enquiry is required and I have no doubt it would greatly assist future infrastructure projects.

I have also written to the Chair of the Transport Select Committee and asked that her committee consider an inquiry. I would be most grateful for your comments on the above and the need for an inquiry into phase two of the tram network in Nottingham.

*Yours as ever,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Anna Soubry MP**

*Anna Soubry, Member of Parliament for Broxtowe*

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