



13 FEB 2012

Department for
Transport

From the Minister of State
The Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers MP

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Your ref:

Cllr Nick Clarke
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Shire Hall
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10 FEB 2012

Dear Cllr Clarke

Thank you very much for your letter of 26 January, regarding progress towards building a new station at Chesterton.

I am pleased to see that work is continuing to progress in a satisfactory manner and that the Council is looking to confirm this station will be delivered.

I can confirm that the Department will specify that future franchised services serve this station provided that we are satisfied that the revenue associated with this exceeds the costs of serving the station. Before we are in a position to finalise our agreement, we will need to be certain regarding the costs associated with stopping there. In particular, this means we will need to have certainty surrounding the costs and repayment schedule. Furthermore, we would also need to be satisfied that the revenue that is anticipated is likely to materialise. As your letter notes, the project costs and proposed repayment schedule have still to be finalised. We look forward to this work progressing so that we can move this project on.

It is very much my hope that this work will have been concluded well in advance of the Invitation to Tender being published for the Thameslink franchise in October this year.

In the meantime please be assured that my officials will continue to work with your officers to facilitate progress.

Regards

Theresa

THE RT. HON. THERESA VILLIERS