



Peter Hendy CBE  
Commissioner of Transport  
Transport for London  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Windsor House  
42-50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

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Thank you for your letter dated 26 June. Having considered your comments regarding the Silvertown Link and reviewed the draft London Plan alteration, I am concerned that the crossing could be unnecessarily and significantly delayed.

Historically this area has suffered from poor transport links. T2025 forecasts huge population growth in East London. This will require a reliable road network to provide access to new housing and for essential vehicles such as those on delivery and servicing journeys. The boroughs concerned recognise that the Lower Lea Valley and Greenwich Peninsula need to be planned together.

While I agree that lessons must be learnt from TGB before proposals for Silvertown can be finalised, I do not see why TfL should not undertake further preparatory work, while the Inspector reports and the Secretaries of State contemplate their decision, and the TGB team should have spare capacity during this period. It seems likely that road user charging will be in place before the time this crossing could open, and so the link between new road capacity and extra traffic will be broken.

I hope you agree that delaying such an important piece of infrastructure from 2012-2016 to 2017-2022, as outlined in the London Plan alteration is inconsistent with the objective of securing the legacy of the 2012 Games and ensuring that the transport network is integrated with the supply of new housing.

I fear future investment into the area may be held up due to lack of infrastructure and would welcome your further review of how this delay can be recovered while learning the lessons from the TGB experience.

Sincere thanks for your attention on this matter.

**Jo Valentine**  
Chief Executive