



Department
for Transport

Councillor Sarah Hayward
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via email sarah.hayward@camden.gov.uk

Sir Edward Lister
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From the Minister of State
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Thank you for your letter of 22 March, to the Secretary of State, about HS2. I am replying as Minister of State responsible for Rail.

The report produced by the Euston Area Plan and enclosed with your letter provides helpful analysis of the design proposals that we are considering in the Department. I acknowledge that you have not had long to consider the revised option for Euston's HS2 station so the work that has gone into presenting this assessment is appreciated.

In determining the design for HS2 at Euston, we are very mindful of the impact on Camden and the need to provide lasting benefits for the area. We also have a responsibility to provide value for money for the taxpayer and to ensure that the new railway is delivered so the benefits for the country can be realised sooner rather than later. GVA's analysis presents a case that addresses some but not all of these points.

I know that my officials, at a senior level, continue to work closely and constructively with yours to ensure that information is shared and we do our utmost to settle on a proposal that goes a good way to delivering all of our objectives. This includes exploring the scope for overstation development above the proposed HS2 station.

I fully expect HS2 Ltd and Network Rail to continue to work together to consider how the integration of classic and high speed services will work. The Department will also be considering with Network Rail and HS2 Ltd how the existing Euston station, were this not to be part of the HS2 development,

might be redeveloped to provide a station fit for both passengers and the future of Camden.

The Euston Area Plan project is a good way to work through the issues that you raise in this letter. Both my Department and HS2 Ltd remain committed to engaging and supporting the work of the project and I expect my officials and colleagues in the company to keep you closely involved in our developing thinking for the future of rail at Euston. Challenges remain but there is both time and a willingness to get this right and I welcome your continuing engagement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Burns', with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

THE RT. HON. SIMON BURNS