



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Ms Joanna Whittington
Chief Executive
Office of Rail and Road
One Kemble Street
London
WC2B 4AN

March 2018

I am writing to you to voice my support for the proposed Woking area enhancements submitted by Network Rail.

Demand on the Wessex route

The number of passenger journeys on the Wessex route has more than doubled in the last 20 years, from 108 million in 1996 to around 234 million per year. The number of journeys is expected to increase by a further 40% by 2043. Combined with existing 20% overcrowding, this means an increase in capacity of 60% is required. With many of my constituents regularly standing throughout their commute into London Waterloo each morning, conventional enhancements are required to unlock capacity on the route, especially on main line services.

Woking flyover

Woking Junction is where the south west main line and Portsmouth direct line converge. The existing infrastructure configuration limits the number of services that can be operated. To remove this constraint Network Rail are proposing to install a railway flyover, lifting the Guildford 'London line' over the south west main line. Network Rail hope that this will improve reliability and performance for the main line service which would be welcomed by many of my constituents.

As a stand-alone piece of infrastructure Woking flyover will allow two additional train paths towards London in the busiest morning peak hour. In the medium term, the capacity benefits of Digital Railway will rely on the delivery of Woking flyover and station enhancements. In the long term, Crossrail 2 will also rely on these enhancements to realise the main line capacity benefits of the scheme.

With this in mind, I believe that the proposals made by Network Rail will be beneficial to my constituents and will ease travel in the wider area as a whole.

Yours ever,

Steve Brine MP

Steve Brine MP

Winchester & Chandler's Ford

Tel: 020 7219 7189 email: steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

www.stevebrine.com

March 2018

