

Rt Hon Lord Adonis  
Secretary of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Copied to: Franchise Policy Team at the Department for Transport, Giada Covallero, Departmental Consultation Co-ordinator, Shadow Transport Secretary Theresa Villiers, Shadow Transport Minister Stephen Hammond, Shadow Transport Secretary Norman Baker

29 April 2010

Dear Lord Adonis,

Your department has published an informal consultation on 'The Future of Rail Franchising' which is said to be only of 'technical interest' to the industry.

This document proposes that train companies should be given a financial incentive to cut train services. We strongly object to this idea. It could encourage companies to run down or cut socially necessary services which don't make much money, but which people rely on. This would have a very serious impact on rail passengers.

We urge you to think again about this proposal and to give us and passengers the chance to comment on 'The Future of Rail Franchising' in a formal consultation.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Stephen Joseph  
Executive Director  
Campaign for Better Transport

On behalf of:  
Campaign for Better Transport  
ASLEF  
Friends of the Earth  
National Pensioners Convention

Railfuture  
RMT  
Transform Scotland  
TSSA

Unison  
Better Trains for Chepstow  
Bricycles  
Cambridge Friends of the Earth  
Campaign Against New Beeching Report  
Campaign against the Levels Motorway  
Carno Station Action Group  
Chelmsford Commuters And Rail Travellers  
Coastliners Rail User Group  
CPREssex  
CycleSheffield  
Essex Rail Users Federation  
Friends of Suburban Bristol Railways  
Greater Manchester Campaign for Free Public Transport  
Greater Manchester Cycling Campaign  
Kingskerswell Alliance  
Lancashire Campaign for Better Transport  
Leicestershire Campaign for Better Transport  
London Campaign for Better Transport  
More Train Less Strain  
North East Combined Transport Activists Roundtable  
Norwich and Norfolk Transport Action Group

Nottinghamshire Campaign for Better Transport  
No Way! Group  
Ontrack Rail Users' Association  
Pedals  
Portishead Railway Group  
Salisbury Campaign for Better Transport  
Save the Train  
Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Rail Passenger Association  
South East Essex Friends of the Earth  
South East Forum for Sustainability  
South Lakes Action on Climate Change - Towards Transition  
South Hampshire Rail Users' Group  
Southwark Rail Users Group  
Staveley Green Travel Initiative  
Sustainable Transport for the East of England Region  
Stop Bristol Airport Expansion  
Transition Exeter Transport Group  
Transport Action Group – Manchester  
West Midlands Campaign for Better Transport  
Yorkshire Dales Public Transport Users Group  
Yorkshire and the Humber Transport Roundtable