



Steve Webb MP

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR THORNBURY & YATE

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Anna Walker
Chair of Office of Rail Regulator Board
Office of Rail Regulator
One Kemble Street
London
WC2B 4AN

Our ref: woo/jw

21 June 2013

Dear Anna Walker

Re: Filton Four Tracks

I have been contacted by local supporters of improvements to the railway system in the Greater Bristol area. In particular, they are concerned to ensure that the reinstatement of the four-tracking of the Filton Bank section will go ahead because this is likely to be crucial for other vital improvements.

As you know, discussion on this project has formed part of the work being undertaken to determine projects for Control Period 5 (2014-2019). I was therefore pleased to see that your *'Draft determination of Network Rail's outputs and funding for 2014-19'* published earlier this month included the Filton Bank works.

As you are now consulting on this document, I am writing to you now to support the continued inclusion of this proposal in the plans for CP5.

As you will be aware this section of track used to have four lines but two were removed during the 1980s. This has meant that local railways have to share the tracks with the mainline services, to the detriment of both. Restoring four tracks in this area could bring a significant boost to the railways in the whole of the Greater Bristol area.

The proposal could result in higher frequency for local trains and could bring benefits to my constituency via the rail service from Yate station. This station suffers from significant overcrowding during commuter times. Although there have recently been some additional carriages on this service, a more frequent service would be very welcome and could boost the local economy.

I would be grateful if you could include my comments in the current consultation.

Yours sincerely



Steve Webb MP

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