



Committee of Public Accounts

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John Biggs AM
Chairman of the Budget and Performance Committee
City Hall
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Dear John

Transport for London: termination of signalling contract with Bombardier

You wrote to me earlier this year to indicate that your Committee would be happy for the Public Accounts Committee to examine the termination of Transport for London's signalling contract with Bombardier, given the greater resources and stronger powers we have at our disposal. Thank you again for your willingness to engage with us on this issue.

As you may be aware, we posed relevant questions to the Commissioner of TfL during our evidence session on *Crossrail*, the report of which we published last week. I also discussed with the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Commissioner the potential for the Public Accounts Committee to scrutinise the termination of the signalling contract in more detail, with the assistance of the National Audit Office. Transport for London is not prepared to grant audit access to the National Audit Office as the organisation is already audited by the Audit Commission, who contract the work to KPMG, who have already done relevant work on this issue. Unfortunately this makes it very difficult for my Committee to undertake any meaningful scrutiny of the contract.

The Public Accounts Committee does however plan to hold two inquiries relating to train procurement and major rail infrastructure projects in the autumn. I hope we will be able to draw out relevant lessons via this work that will assist TfL as well as the Department for Transport in the future.

We should catch up soon

Best wishes

RT HON MARGARET HODGE MP
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts