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Sir Peter Hendy CBE
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21 January 2015

Dear Caroline

**Transport Committee's response to consultation on new river crossings
in East London**

Thank you for your letter of 18 September, sent on behalf of the GLA Transport Committee, in which you set out your concerns about the consultation process on the River Crossings and ways in which they could be improved. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

Your response has been fully considered alongside all the other submissions we received and a full report on the detailed consultation results will be published in February. We will ensure a copy of the full report is sent to you.

An initial view of the results showed that whilst there were different views on the specific location and timescales for progressing individual crossings, it was very clear that there is widespread agreement on the need for a package of new river crossings. Given the scale of growth planned for east London and the projected population increase, there is significant public backing for TfL to proceed further with the Silvertown tunnel proposal and to consider plans for new crossings at both Gallions Reach and Belvedere.

Meanwhile, since receiving your response we have consulted further on the Silvertown Tunnel proposal, which has been developed to a greater level of detail than the schemes considered in the East of Silvertown consultation.

Providing detailed modelling information on the potential traffic and environmental impacts and the likely demand for cycling for these crossings is more appropriate to the next stage of consultation which will take place later this year and we will be seeking to engage with the Transport Committee at that time.

In terms of next steps, TfL are currently undertaking further feasibility work on the options that emerged from the consultation and we will consult on more detailed proposals later this year. Subject to that consultation and funding we anticipate making a submission for Powers in 2018, for construction to begin in 2021 and for the crossings to open from 2025 onwards.

For the Silvertown Tunnel, a statutory consultation on the detailed scheme will take place this summer with a submission for a Development and Consent Order being made by the end of the year. Again, subject to consultation and securing Powers the Silvertown Tunnel could be opened in 2022.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Hendy', written over the typed name.

Sir Peter Hendy CBE