



Jonathan Djanogly MP
Member of Parliament for Huntingdon
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Our Ref: ZA10663

7 June 2018

Dear Chris

Re: Great Northern Services

In advance of our forthcoming meeting to discuss the appalling rail service being provided to commuters in my constituency I enclose a copy of a letter that I have sent today to the Chief Executive of Govia.

As you will see, despite receiving assurances from Govia earlier this week nothing has improved and my constituents travelling from St Neots and Huntingdon still face unacceptable uncertainty, delays and cancellations.

Yours ever

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Mr Charles Horton
Chief Executive
Govia Thameslink Railway
3rd Floor
41-51 Grey Street
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE1 6EE

Our Ref: ZA10663

7 June 2018

Dear Mr Horton

Re: Great Northern Services

On Tuesday of this week I was assured that the introduction of an allegedly 'stable and reliable' temporary timetable that day would lead to an improvement in the services available to my constituents. Although this timetable meant a reduced number of trains would be operating on the line until the permanent timetable could be reintroduced I was promised that things would improve.

Within two days I am receiving feedback from my constituents that nothing has improved and that scheduled trains continue to be cancelled. I have received reports of schoolchildren travelling between Huntingdon and Peterborough having to wait for hours before and after school. I am also told that services have been reduced to the point that there is often only one train that then stops at all stations, resulting in unacceptable overcrowding.

Unplanned train cancellations and delays are adding hours to the length of the working day of commuters which in many cases is having a significant impact on family arrangements. Despite this many of my constituents have been very understanding and have tolerated a certain level of disruption. However, this fiasco has now reached the point that people are rightly angry at what they see as incompetence and a failure to demonstrate any organisational resilience in adequately dealing with this issue.

When Govia experienced issues with services on this line in 2016 I supported you in delivering service improvements and refrained from calling for the franchise to be removed. Given the current situation I would like you to explain why I should not now join the calls of others who are demanding that the Secretary of State immediately removes Govia's franchise.

Yours sincerely

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