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Sean Perry
Head of Transportation Planning and Development
Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
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7 June 2018

Dear Sean,

TRANSFORMING CITIES – SOUTH ESSEX

Greater Anglia supports the South Essex Transforming Cities submission by the local authorities. Greater Anglia provides frequent train services across the area connecting Billericay, Wickford (in Basildon District), Rayleigh, Southend Airport (in Rochford District) and Southend Victoria Station.

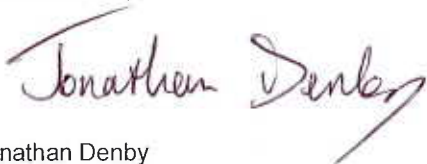
Greater Anglia supports growth in the region. From May 2019 onwards, we will introduce new trains across our entire network, giving a significant increase in capacity and we will also increase the frequency of off-peak services along the line from 3 to 4 an hour. This frequency upgrade gives communities along the line a “turn up and ride” sustainable passenger transport service, with better access to employment, health and education opportunities in the south Essex area. The increase in capacity will also support the predicted growth of 90,000 homes and 70,000 jobs in the area.

The stations serve as interchanges between rail and bus services, giving further access to major centres of employment, education and retail areas. Greater Anglia continues to invest in station and facilities along its route, improving access for all and supporting sustainable transport provision with cycle parking, new information screens, new ticket machines, smart card ticketing and mobile ticketing apps.

Greater Anglia has worked with the Essex County Council on several projects, including improvements to Billericay and Wickford station forecourts. We also already have in place specific ticketing initiatives, including scholar passes, business travel carnets and discounted season tickets for companies in the area. A new Community Rail Partnership has also been launched for the line.

This submission can only enhance the significant investment being made by Greater Anglia to improve connectivity, by making it easier for people to get around and access employment in South Essex to aid productivity in the area. We therefore fully support it.

Yours sincerely,



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Head of Corporate Affairs

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