



Councillor Colin Smith
Leader of Bromley Council
LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

20th December 2019

Alex Williams
Director of City Planning
Transport for London

Dear Alex

Bakerloo consultation response

Further to your most recent consultation about the proposed Bakerloo extension, I felt it might be helpful to re-state again Bromley Council's policy position. This remains unchanged, with much of the commentary pasted from previous consultation responses.

The Council's priorities are detailed in our LIP and include specifically improving transport links into Bromley Town Centre to support it as part of building and maintaining thriving town centres. Rather than merely undertaking template consultation, I would encourage TfL to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Council to bring forward proposals which will improve transport infrastructure for Bromley town centre.

I refer to previous consultation responses and our news release of October 2019 which outlined our position. To quote from previous correspondence on the matter, "the extension of the Bakerloo line to Lewisham, we are also broadly supportive, mindful of the fact that it offers Bromley residents further options and transport choices in addition to those currently provided by DLR".

What is needed is extra capacity and connectivity for Bromley town centre rather than unnecessary alternatives at great cost.

At that point however, I regret that our respective visions do appear to diverge.

To quote directly from the Council's LIP, "The Council, therefore, supports the efforts of LB Lewisham to extend the Bakerloo line to Lewisham and would consider options for a further extension into the Borough where this provides genuinely new connectivity and capacity. For example, a phase 2 Bakerloo Line extension to Bromley North could be acceptable to the Borough if it contributed to improving connectivity on one or more of the identified corridors."

It is also the case that were such a link to be established, it would provide Bromley Town Centre with an opportunity to develop into a back office hub of excellence, providing further job opportunities for people in the sub region, a key local aspiration.

Such a connection would of course also serve to considerably reduce pressure on the Jubilee Line.

In addition to the scheme replacing existing infrastructure which works well, rather than providing extra/new capacity, we are simply unable to support the proposal, certainly in full, as it would deny direct access to London termini to a vast swathe of Bromley residents living along Hayes Line corridor, a significant number of whom purchased their properties with that connectivity in mind.

We also cannot accept that the Hayes line's access to London Bridge should be taken away to create extra capacity for other services travelling in from deeper Kent.

It is completely unacceptable that the interests of local people paying significant amounts in Mayoral precept should be set aside for benefit of others who do not.

That said, if it were possible to extend the Bakerloo line down as far as New Beckenham, to then spur off towards Bromley South, this could be something we could get behind and support, providing the existing direct links were maintained in some form of a track sharing arrangement.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Colin Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Colin Smith
Leader of Bromley Council
London Borough of Bromley