MICHELLE DONELAN MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Chris Heaton-Harris MP
Minister of State
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Date: 5 March 2021
Reference: MD17754

Dear Chris,

I am writing to you today as the lead sponsoring MP for a renewed bid for funding for a station at Corsham, in my Chippenham constituency, on the Bristol to London main line.

We believe such a service can make a significant contribution to reducing both road congestion and air pollution, particularly in Bath and Bristol which are major centres for employment, retail and leisure. The increasing population of the town of Corsham and the surrounding rural area needs improved infrastructure to support better connectivity which will in turn support business and tourism within the town itself.

The bid will only make a relatively small impact on the journey time between Bristol and London but would significantly reduce overall journey times for many passengers accessing the service who would not have to travel into the already congested areas of Bristol, Bath and Chippenham. The changing way in which lives will be led in the post Covid 19 era means that this is an opportunity to positively improve both the travel experience and the environment for local people and those in the big cities we depend on for employment, retail and leisure facilities. This benefit will be amplified with our growing population.

The MOD which is a major and growing employer in Corsham has links to both Bristol and London and an improved local rail service would greatly benefit them in terms of their travel plans and the local residents in terms of reduced congestion on the local rural road system. There is significant local demand for a station in Corsham, I have conducted surveys in the area since before my election in 2015 and existing residents are overwhelmingly in favour of this hugely beneficial infrastructure project for the town.

I would be most grateful for your continued consideration of this bid.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Donelan MP

Serving Chippenham, Melksham, Corsham, Bradford on Avon and the surrounding villages
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Member of Parliament for the Chippenham Constituency

Michelle Donelan MP
61 New Road
Chippenham
Wilts
SN15 1ES

5 March 2021

Dear Michelle

Re: Letter of Support- Restoring Your Railway, Corsham.

I am happy to support the Corsham Station bid on the Restoring Your Railways Fund.

This fits closely with my own plans to develop the local economy, whilst also cutting road congestion and pollution.

Including local accessibility will encourage increased use of the railway network, which is a positive green initiative. Furthermore, this will actively promote local enterprise and provide new opportunities for sustainable growth in employment, education and tourism.

Restoring Corsham Station will bring together local communities here in the West of England in realising our full potential on the national stage.

Yours faithfully

Robert Buckland

MP For South Swindon

JAMES GRAY MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

3rd March 2021

Restoring your Railway Fund,
Department for Transport,
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Rd,
London,
SW1P 4DR

I wish to register my strong support for the Corsham Station bid in the 'Restoring your Railways' fund. Whilst not situated in my constituency, it will greatly affect those living and working in North Wiltshire. A station at Corsham on the already popular London – Bristol mainline will significantly reduce road congestion and air pollution and provide a much-needed additional transport link to the area.

I am a strong supporter of the military and believe that the proposed Corsham Station will be of huge benefit to those working in and around MOD Corsham and will provide an essential link between Corsham and London.

I really do feel that this is an eminently sensible idea. The impact on the journey time between London and Bristol will be negligible and would provide a much-reduced journey time for those who would previously have to travel to the already congested areas of Bath or Chippenham in order to access the service.

0207 219 6237 JAMESGRAYMP@PARLIAMENT.UK WWW.JAMESGRAY.ORG

Wera Hobhouse

Liberal Democrat MP for Bath

Chris Heaton-Harris MP
Minister of State
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

4 March 2021

Dear Chris

I am happy to support the Corsham Station bid on the “Restoring Your Railways” fund. It fits closely with our own aspirations and plans to develop the local economy while reducing road congestion, pollution and improving the general environment.

Better use of the rail network by improving local accessibility, is a positive green initiative which actively promotes local enterprise and provides new opportunities for sustainable growth in employment, education and tourism. It will further bring together communities here in the West of England in realising our full potential on the national stage.

Best wishes

Wera Hobhouse

Wera Hobhouse
Liberal Democrat MP for Bath

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DANNY KRUGER MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Chris Heaton-Harris MP
Minister of State
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

5 March 2021

Dear Chris,

I am writing to add my support to the Corsham Station bid under the Restoring Your Railways fund. It ties in closely with aspirations across Wiltshire to develop the local economy, connect our towns and more rural communities and encourage more people to travel by public transport.

I am keen to promote increased rail travel throughout the county and further afield, and hope the Corsham Station bid will be a successful one.

Yours ever,

Danny Kruger
MP for the Devizes Constituency

Tel: 01380 729358
Email: danny.kruger.mp@parliament.uk **Website:** www.dannykruger.org.uk

From: REES-MOGG, Jacob
To: DONELAN, Michelle
Subject: Urgent - Corsham Station Bid
Date: 03 March 2021 18:27:17
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Michelle,

Thank you for your e-mail asking me to write in support of your bid to secure funding for Corsham Station via the Department for Transport's Restoring Your Railway scheme.

I have added my support to the re-opening of Saltford Station for similar reasons. The revival of Corsham Station would mean that there would be less congestion on the roads thus helping the environment, it will encourage sustainable growth as the region continues to develop, it would enable local tourism and it would increase the scope for travel overall, taking the burden from other (normally oversubscribed) lines that transport commuters and students.

I think that such a reopening would benefit my constituents and hope that the Department looks favourably upon this application.

Yours ever,

Jacob

From: DONELAN, Michelle <michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk>
Sent: 02 March 2021 08:59
To: REES-MOGG, Jacob <jacob.reesmogg.mp@parliament.uk>
Cc: TONG, Stacey <stacey.tong@parliament.uk>
Subject: Urgent - Corsham Station Bid

Dear Jacob,
I hope this email finds you well.
Further to my WhatApp message today, you will be aware of the Department for Transport's (DfT) "Restoring your Railway" fund. I have been making bids for the revival of a new station in my Chippenham constituency in the town of Corsham. We have thus far been unsuccessful but have been advised by DfT to try again with the emphasis of the station itself and its usefulness to local residents.
I am conscious that residents of Corsham currently have 2 choices to travel by train east to west across the country on the Bristol to London mainline and that is either to go to Chippenham or to Bath. In light of the need to reduce traffic commuting through Bath which affects me to the east and you surrounding the city, would you be willing to write a letter of support for the bid to reopen Corsham Station? I have attached a briefing note on the bid and the officers working on the bid at Wiltshire Council have suggest the following wording for letters:

The deadline for the bid is this FRIDAY 5th March, so I would be most grateful if you could confirm if you would be willing to write and support as soon as possible.
With many thanks in advance.

Kind regards,

Michelle blue

Michelle Donelan
Member of Parliament for Chippenham constituency
Email: michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk
Twitter: @michelledonelan
Website: www.michelledonelan.co.uk

DAVID WARBURTON MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

4th March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am delighted to support the Corsham Station bid on the "Restoring Your Railways" fund.

In addition to further connecting the local area, I have no doubt that this initiative will invigorate the local economy while also reducing road congestion and cutting pollution. I believe this to be an extremely positive initiative and will provide new opportunities for sustainable growth, employment and tourism.

The benefits of bringing together communities in this way will no doubt also have knock-on benefits to neighbouring constituencies like my own, and I look forward to it getting underway.

The bid has my full support.

Yours faithfully,

David Warburton MP

David Warburton MP
Member of Parliament for Somerton and Frome
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www.davidwarburton.org.uk
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