



Mr Gareth Powell
Transport for London
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By email to: GarethPowell@tfl.gov.uk

Bankside Residents' Forum
18 Great Guildford Street
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Monday 19th February 2018

Dear Mr Powell

REDUCTION IN RV1 BUS SERVICE

I write to you on this occasion on behalf of the residents of Bankside and its surrounding areas to object to the reduction in the RV1 bus service and to request that TFL's decision to reduce this service without consultation and proper rationale be reversed.

We share the concerns raised by Councillors David Noakes, Adele Morris, Maria Linforth-Hall, The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark and The Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark.

Many residents including young people and the elderly use the RV1 bus service to get to school, to visit Guy's Hospital and St Thomas's Hospital and to visit London's wonderful cultural and historical institutions.

There are dozens of residents with disabilities and mobility issues especially the elderly who rely heavily on the RV1 bus service. Reducing the RV1 bus service without taking into consideration the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged Londoners indicates a step backwards from London becoming a truly age-friendly and disability-friendly city. Reducing the RV1 bus service does not indicate that London is open and accessible to all.

There are also a large number of students travelling between the hospitals and the various departments of Kings' College and the LSE located along the route. These students are heavily dependent on the RV1 bus service. The reduction on the RV1 bus service does not take into consideration the affect it will have on these large number of students.

Bankside Residents' Forum and Better Bankside are working hard to improve air quality in the Bankside and surrounding areas. The hydrogen fuel buses are a core part of that strategy and therefore it is vital that the hydrogen fuel buses remain in service.

We appreciate the difficulties with regards to TFL's finances and the need to make efficiency savings. However the reduction of the RV1 bus service is not an efficiency saving but a decision without proper rationale.

We look forward to your response and a reversal of the reduction in the RV1 bus service.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amir', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Amir Eden
Chair of Bankside Residents' Forum

Copies (by email) to:

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan
The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark
The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark
Neil Coyle MP
Florence Eshalomi AM
Cllr Peter John OBE, Leader of Southwark Council
Cathedral Ward Councillors (Cllr Adele Morris, Cllr David Noakes, Cllr Maria Linforth-Hall)
Peter Williams, CEO of Better Bankside