

West Midlands Rail
16 Summer Lane
Birmingham
B19 3SD

XX [month] 2014

Support for West Midlands Rail Devolution Proposals

I am writing to express our support for the principle of rail devolution in the West Midlands. Local passenger rail services in the West Midlands are very important to the economy in the region. The *West Midlands Rail* proposals provide for greater local accountability that would enable us to enhance rail services, focussing them on regional prosperity and growth.

Passenger rail services in the West Midlands are extremely important to [*authority*] and our businesses, residents and visitors. [*Insert brief overview of authority record of investment in rail*].

We welcome the West Midlands rail devolution initiative being developed by West Midlands Rail and participating local authorities, and consider that the proposed governance arrangements provide a robust structure in which our interests will be appropriately represented. The West Midlands rail devolution proposals would be a key delivery vehicle for the delivery of the draft rail vision for the region, '*A World Class Rail Network for the West Midlands*', bringing greater prosperity to the region and enhanced personal mobility to individuals, by developing an integrated, branded, public transport network. We also support the underpinning objectives of delivering a local rail service that meets capacity demands, whilst providing better value for money to the taxpayer.

On this basis we support the submission of the formal proposition and business case to you, and look forward to hearing the outcome the Secretary of State's consideration.

Yours...

[*name*]
Leader of [*authority*]