

**Shenaz Choudhary**

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SUPP/88

**From:** TOftransfers  
**Sent:** 31 May 2018 13:13  
**To:** Jackie Geiles  
**Subject:** FW: Application for Transport and Works Order, Rother Valley Railway

Phil Dreeling | Correspondence Manager, PO - Correspondence Team, Department for Transport  
5/11 GMH | 020 7944 4302 |

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Douglas Broom [mailto:  
**Sent:** 29 May 2018 23:03  
**To:** POCorrespondence <POCorrespondence@dft.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Application for Transport and Works Order, Rother Valley Railway

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing in support of the above application which I believe will offer significant economic benefits to the local community as well as providing an amenity for the wider area. It will also allow the reinstatement of an important part of the UK's Railway history by completing the most significant survivor of Colonel Holman F. Stephens' Light Railway projects.

As a long standing member of the Bluebell Railway and a former resident of East Grinstead, I have seen at first hand how its extension to and connection with National Rail has benefitted both the town and the wider area. The economy of East Grinstead and the Mid Sussex District has been boosted by increased visitor numbers spending money in the town and surrounding villages. I believe that the benefits demonstrated by the Bluebell Railway's extension will be replicated in the Rother Valley by linking the Heritage Railway to National Rail at Roberstbridge.

There are also strong amenity arguments in favour of granting the Order. The number of families who will enjoy the railway journey far outnumber those who object to the granting of the Order. My own experience at the Bluebell Railway and elsewhere testifies to the huge pleasure that heritage railways give to millions of people across the country.

I am aware that the objectors have raised the issue of the proposed level crossing on the A21 but I would urge you to consider the possible imposition of conditions on the use by the railway of the crossing at peak times, were you to be persuaded that there might be unwanted effects on road traffic. However, given the very short space of time required for a train to pass over the crossing, I would argue that traffic disruption will be minimal.

In summary, I would urge you to grant the Order and to allow the reinstatement of an iconic and historically important Light Railway which will give pleasure to many thousands and boost the local economy.

Yours faithfully,

Douglas Broom  
Member, Bluebell Railway  
Volunteer, Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway

Sent from my iPad

## Shenaz Choudhary

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**From:** Douglas Broom ·  
**Sent:** 30 May 2018 16:06  
**To:** POCorrespondence  
**Subject:** Re: Automatic reply: Application for Transport and Works Order, Rother Valley Railway

Hi Shenaz,

My apologies. My full postal address is:

Best wishes,

Douglas Broom  
+44(0)7824 657701

Sent from my iPad

On 29 May 2018, at 23:03, POCorrespondence <[POCorrespondence@dft.gov.uk](mailto:POCorrespondence@dft.gov.uk)> wrote:

Thank you for contacting the Department for Transport. Your email and any attachments will be reviewed as soon as possible. We aim to respond to all correspondence in 20 working days. If your email raises issues that are not within the remit of this Department we will endeavour to transfer it to the appropriate organisation.

If your email is considered to be a response to the consultation on Road vehicles: Improving Air Quality and Safety, we will forward it to the team that is managing the consultation, who will consider it carefully. The results of the consultation will be published within 3 months of the consultation ending, on this page <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/road-vehicles-improving-air-quality-and-safety>

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