

5 September 2011

Thames Gateway South Essex Transport Board
Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
Essex
CM1 1QH

Local Major Transport Projects
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

Dear Sir, Madam

SOUTH ESSEX RAPID TRANSIT (*sert*)

Further to our letter in January 2010, Thames Gateway South Essex Partnership would like to reaffirm its full support and commitment to the South Essex Rapid Transit (*sert*) scheme as set out in the Best and Final Funding Bid to the Department for Transport.

We believe that *sert* is an essential enabler for regeneration – without a fast and reliable alternative to the car, South Essex will not be able to deliver the 16,000 new jobs and 19,000 new homes which are planned. We also support the aspiration for *sert* to grow beyond the initial scheme, with additional routes introduced in subsequent phases to extend the network.

Thames Gateway South Essex Partnership was founded in 2002 with an aim to deliver a better quality of life for all those who live and work in the area. We are committed to helping deliver the target number of new jobs and homes. *sert* is an essential opportunity to drive forward sustainable transport to ensure future growth and effective regeneration for now and in the future.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Tracey Chapman

Chair, Thames Gateway Transport Board