

London Borough of Bexley

News Release

For Immediate Release

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MPs give public support to 'Keep Bexley on Track' campaign

The borough's three MPs joined leading Councillors this morning (Friday 21 April) to demonstrate their cross party opposition to the proposal to end direct rail services from central and north Bexley to Charing Cross and Victoria.

James Brokenshire, David Evennett and Teresa Pearce joined the Leader of the London Borough of Bexley, Councillor Teresa O'Neill OBE, Councillor Alex Sawyer, Cabinet lead for Transport and Councillor Joe Ferriera for a photograph at Bexleyheath Station.

They have also expressed their support for the Council's call for the Department for Transport to organise a consultation event in the borough about the proposals.

"We are very pleased that our three local MPs have demonstrated cross party support for our call for this idea to be dropped," said Cllr O'Neill. "Many people in the borough depend on these services and such a major change in service should not be considered until more and better alternatives are available."

If it is taken forward, the proposal on which the Department is consulting would increase the difficulty local people face in travelling up to central London. Bexley has no Tube stations, tram or fast track bus services. People travelling up to Charing Cross, Victoria or Waterloo would have to change at London Bridge, or Cannon Street.

The online petition opposing the proposal is available at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/190894> and has been signed by more than 21,000 people.

Residents who would like to know more about the proposal and the arguments put forward in support of the change can read the Department for Transport's consultation document on the new franchise for South Eastern rail services online at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604904/south-eastern-rail-franchise-public-consultation.pdf

You can also express your views on the proposal by writing to the Secretary of State for Transport and Southeastern Trains, using the information on page 39 of the consultation document.

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