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for Transport

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From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps

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Dear Catherine

Thank you for your letter of 2 April 2020 sent on behalf of 12 North East MPs about the difficulties faced by the Tyne and Wear Metro.

I and my Lords Minister, Baroness Vere, have met with the Metro Mayor of the North of Tyne, Jamie Driscoll, and Managing Director of Nexus, Tobyn Hughes, who share your concerns regarding the Metro.

The Government understands the importance of the Metro network for the Tyne and Wear region and its role in transporting critical workers. We are considering light rail across all of the systems that fall within England, outside London, and as a matter of urgency I have asked officials to work up further details of the impact of the revenue shortfall as a result of Coronavirus.

Yours ever

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT