

Councillor Ryan Murphy
Chair, City Growth and Regeneration Committee
Belfast City Council
Belfast City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

23rd June 2022

Dear Councillor Murphy,

Re: Request to present to BCC City Growth and Regeneration Committee

Translink is currently putting in place plans for a major £30m refurbishment of existing rail infrastructure in Central Belfast through a project called the Lagan Junction to Yorkgate Track Renewal.

Central Area Track Renewal (CATR) is the overall strategy for renewal of track infrastructure in the centre of Belfast and the first element of CATR works was successfully carried out through the renewal of Lagan Junction during 2020.

The Lagan Junction to Yorkgate Track Renewal Project is the second element of this strategy and the location is from Lagan Junction (where the Bangor line meets the Belfast line) to the north side of Yorkgate Station over Dargan Bridge.

A complete renewal at this location as well as signalling upgrades will ensure high safety standards and operational performance are maintained, in turn helping to increase the reliability of the service and reduce future maintenance. As one of the busiest sections on the network, it has significant strategic importance as the gateway to Belfast from the Derry-Londonderry and Larne lines.

Engineering works are due to take place during a 72-hour line closure in October and throughout the Christmas holiday period at the end of this year when there is typically less passenger demand, with schools and many workplaces closed. This will be followed by four weekend closures during January and February 2023. Night-time working will also take place from summer 2022 until summer 2023.

As part of our Communications Plan, we will be consulting widely with key stakeholders, including elected representatives, passengers, and local residents to provide information on potential impact and appropriate mitigation measures and we would also welcome the opportunity to present to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee on this project.

www.translink.co.uk

I will be guided by the Committee as to the most appropriate means of engagement and would be happy to provide a written presentation for the Committee to consider in the first instance.

I trust that the Committee will consider this request and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

John Gourley

John Gourley
Project Manager, Translink

Cc. Councillor Spratt (Vice Chair)