

Councillor David Brooks
Chair, City Growth and Regeneration Committee
Belfast City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Monday 29th June 2020

Dear Councillor Brooks,

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

Translink is currently putting in place plans for a major refurbishment of existing rail infrastructure in Belfast through a project called the Central Area Track Renewal (CATR).

Representing a major investment by the Department for Infrastructure, these improvement works are essential to maintain high safety standards and to support our plans to enhance rail services for the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of Northern Ireland. The works will be located in the central area of Belfast, starting from the south side of Lanyon Place Station in south Belfast and running to Yorkgate Station in north Belfast, as well as 400 metres on the Bangor line from Lagan Junction in east Belfast.

The entire programme has been prioritised due to the essential nature of these assets in central Belfast. To minimise disruption, and due to the size of the area captured by this programme of works, the delivery of track works shall be based on priority order determined by asset condition. This ensures we can maintain safety and operational performance, customer satisfaction, and avoid a backlog of renewals on these critical public transport routes into Belfast.

The first stage of CATR is the renewal of Lagan Junction, with the main engineering works associated with this due to take place during the Christmas holiday period at the end of this year.

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

Given the challenges around Covid-19, I will be guided by the Committee as to the most appropriate means of engagement; for example, we would be pleased to give a presentation using video or telephone conferencing technology.

www.translink.co.uk

Alternatively, Translink could 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Gormley".

Mark Gormley
Translink

Cc. Councillor Ryan Murphy (Deputy Chair, City Growth and Regeneration Committee)
Eilish McGoldrick (Democratic Services Officer)