

Sadiq Khan
City Hall
Kamal Chunchie Way
London
E16 1ZE

27 September 2023

Dear Sadiq Khan,

We are concerned with proposals to withdraw the Day Travelcard from Transport for London's list of accepted tickets as it provides a vital link to the capital for individuals and families both inside and outside of the London fare zones.

Ensuring that public transport is affordable and accessible to all has rightly been outlined as a priority of your administration — and the Day Travelcard alleviates higher fares for certain passengers travelling into and around the capital. The ease of an integrated ticketing option, combined with fare discounts, has led to 14.2 million purchases of the ticket type on the National Rail network alone. Of this, half were issued to passengers with distinct needs — children, young people, families, disabled people and those entitled to a Senior Railcard.

Without the Day Travelcard, fares for passengers will rise substantially. On average, off-peak fares for individuals will rise by 7% — and families will pay 16% more for their tickets. In some cases, like High Wycombe to Marylebone, families will pay 51% more for their tickets — a rise of £27.60. Worryingly, this will come on top of a general fare rise likely to be around 8%, making travel to London far less attractive, and so damaging our city's economy. In the midst of a cost-of-living and climate crisis, these rises will be too much to bear for many. It is not impossible that the withdrawal of the Day Travelcard, far from filling a gap in TfL's coffers, will actually have a negative impact of TfL's income stream.

With this, those entitled to discounts will face 'barriers' to their travel, as outlined in the Mayoral Decision MD3142 signed off in July 2023. Disability groups have outlined their concerns with the withdrawal of the Day Travelcard too, citing concerns with maximum time limits, contactless payments and unnecessary bureaucracy.

In summation, we would urge you to find a solution that involves the Day Travelcard remaining as an accepted method of travel on Transport for London services. We recognise the external factors that have led to the suggestion that the Day Travelcard be withdrawn — primarily government funding deals and the aftershock of the COVID-19 pandemic — but believe there is scope for agreement on this matter. Our understanding is that internal deadlines are fast approaching, and we would encourage you to ensure that discussions remain ongoing between the Rail Delivery Group and Transport for London, so that consensus can be found. Nobody wants to see the Day Travelcard withdrawn, and with your help we can ensure it stays.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Norman Baker, former Transport Minister and Director of External Affairs
Campaign for Better Transport

Claire Walters, Chief Executive
Bus Users UK

Naomi Green, Managing Director
England's Economic Heartland

Sarah King, Development Manager London
Federation of Small Businesses

Claire Haigh, Founder & CEO
Greener Vision

Stephen Edwards, CEO
Living Streets

Claire Mulrenan, Public Health Registrar
London Deanery

Michael Roberts, Chief Executive
London TravelWatch

Councillor Javed Hussain, Portfolio holder for Sustainable transport
Luton Borough Council

Councillor Simon Curry
Medway Council

Michael Kill, CEO
Night Time Industries Association

Councillor Matthew Binley, Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets
North Northamptonshire Council

Councillor Puja Bedi, Cabinet Lead Member, Housing Highways Transport Environment & Environmental
Services
Slough Council

Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Transport, Infrastructure and Growth
Surrey County Council

Chris Todd, Director
Transport Action Network

Richard Hebditch, UK Director
Transport & Environment

Andrew Summers, Chief Executive
Transport East

Caroline Stickland, CEO
Transport for All

Rupert Clubb, Lead Officer
Transport for the South East

Mayor Peter Taylor
Elected Mayor of Watford

Councillor Ian Stotesbury, Portfolio holder for sustainability and transport
Watford Borough Council

Councillor Denise Gaines, Executive member for Highways, Housing & Sustainable Travel
West Berkshire Council

Paul Fishwick, Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways
Wokingham Borough Council

John Dales, Director and Head of Transport Planning
Urban Movement