

Our ref: *****

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Date: 17 January 2013

Mr *****

Head of Cities Policy & Delivery
Department for Transport
2/14 Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

Dear Mike

I am writing to, firstly, update you on my new role as Interim Chief Executive and Director General at Merseytravel. I had the pleasure of meeting you briefly over lunch with ***** and ***** last August, at the meeting involving lead transport officers from the Liverpool City Region. I've been advised of ***** departure at the end of the month and hope to meet his successor, *****; shortly. I am also in regular contact with ***** within the Northern Engagement Team and remain grateful for the advice and support received from officials at DfT.

Secondly, and more specifically, at a recent sub-committee of the Integrated Transport Authority, a report was considered concerning the process the Authority must follow, as set out in the Mersey Tunnels Act 2004, in setting the tolls at its February 2013 meeting. Following a debate within the Chamber, Members passed a unanimous resolution that "officers be requested to question Government in relation to current thinking on the integration of the Mersey Tunnels into the national road network", in time for the Authority meeting of 7 February 2013, if possible.

I would, therefore, be most grateful for your views on this aspect, so that I am able to update Members accordingly.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

Interim Chief Executive and Director General