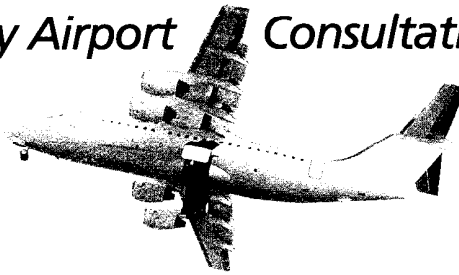


London City Airport Consultative Committee

From: Stuart Innes
Secretary



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8th April 2005

Ian Brown
Managing Director
Docklands Light Railway
Castor Lane
Poplar
London
E14 0DX

Dear Mr Brown

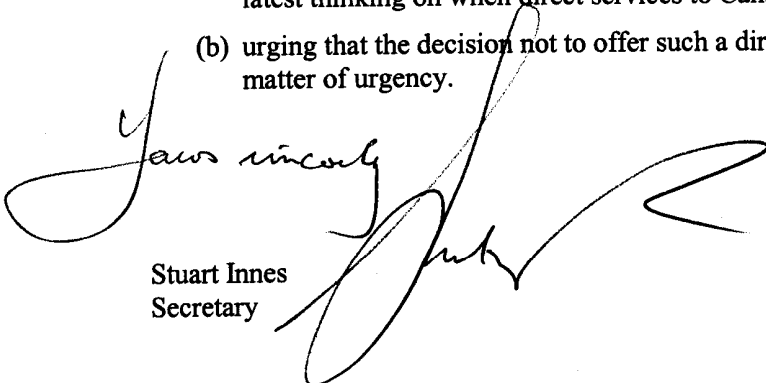
At the meeting of the consultative committee held on Tuesday evening last, 5th April, members heard to their dismay that when the new DLR line to London City Airport is launched at the end of the year it will not, at least at the outset, offer direct services from to and from Canary Wharf. This seems to be a departure from your thinking when the railway was planned and, if so, it is a change which is not welcome.

You are, I'm sure, very well aware of the importance of Canary Wharf as a source of passengers for the Airport. A survey conducted by the CAA in 2003 showed that nearly a third of passengers using the Airport were travelling to or from Docklands and it is clear that a sizeable proportion of this figure was attributable to Canary Wharf. These flows are likely to continue and, indeed, it can be expected that the number of passengers from the business district will grow substantially.

The consultative committee accepts that in practice it will not be difficult or time consuming for passengers to change trains at Poplar or Canning Town. It will, however, be a psychological deterrent and the committee fears that many passengers to and from Canary Wharf will continue to use road transport. If that happens it might well be difficult to persuade them later, as and when a direct service is introduced, to use the DLR service.

It is very clear to the Committee that the continued growth of the Airport depends crucially on improved surface access by public transport and members are concerned that a failure from the outset directly to serve Canary Wharf will be very damaging in securing a sustainable airport for the future. I was thus asked to write to you:

- (a) seeking more information on your plans for services on the new line including your latest thinking on when direct services to Canary Wharf might be expected; and
- (b) urging that the decision not to offer such a direct service should be re-considered as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Innes
Secretary