Transport Committee
House of Commons 2nd Floor 14 Tothill Street London SW1H 9NB
Tel 020 7219 3266 Twitter @commonstrans Email transcom@parliament.uk Web www.parliament.uk/transcom

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

27 September 2018

Dear Chris,

Pre-appointment hearing: Chair of the Office of Rail and Road

Thank you for your letter advising me of your preferred candidate for the role of Chair of the Office of Rail and Road. We are planning to hold our pre-appointment hearing with Mr Collier on Monday 5 November, and will provide you with our views on his appointment shortly thereafter.

To inform our consideration of your choice of preferred candidate, I would be grateful if you would provide the Committee with answers to the following questions:

1. For how long do you plan to appoint the candidate, and why?
2. What salary will the candidate be paid and, if the Department used the negotiating flexibility it had to pay £90k per annum to an exceptional candidate, why the Department regarded the candidate to be exceptional?
3. What lessons did the Department learn from previous, unsuccessful, recruitment campaigns and how were these applied to the most recent campaign?
4. What efforts did the Department make to elicit applications from as diverse a range of people as possible, and how could this be improved in the future?
5. The Department has said that you plan to appoint Declan Collier as a non-executive member of the board for a brief period before he takes up the role of Chair. When are you planning to do this?

Should you or your officials have any queries in relation to the above or the pre-appointment hearing process in general, please feel free to contact Ed Faulkner, Second Clerk to the Committee (faulkner@parliament.uk; 020 7219 6264).

I would be grateful to receive your responses by Friday 12 October.

Yours sincerely,

Lilian Greenwood MP
Chair of the Transport Select Committee