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6 February 2019

As you may know, the Economic Affairs Committee is currently following up its previous report on the economic case for High Speed 2. In evidence to our Committee on 22 January Sir Terry Morgan, former Chairman of High Speed 2, suggested that you, in your capacity as Chair of Transport for the North, do not favour prioritising east-west rail developments over High Speed 2, partially because Northern Powerhouse Rail would use some of the assets established through the development of High Speed 2.

The Committee would be interested in hearing your views on this issue in more detail in writing to inform our ongoing follow-up work on High Speed 2.

I have enclosed the full transcript of Sir Terry Morgan's evidence to the Committee.

The Rt Hon the Lord Forsyth of Drumlean
Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee