

6<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Lord Ahmad  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Dear Lord Ahmad

**Re: The Garden Bridge**

Thank you very much for your letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015. I am very grateful for your offer of support.

Since we met on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015, we have made significant progress. As you are aware, the intervention by Lambeth Council that led to negotiations of Transport for London's funding for the project has now been resolved and the Trustees of the Garden Bridge Trust have agreed to a revised funding model. Since negotiations have concluded, Lambeth Council have recommenced negotiations on the land required for the South landing of the bridge, with the intention that this is resolved in the coming weeks.

We have also recommenced all other activity relating to any outstanding planning and property matters, with our latest planning conditions submitted to Lambeth Council approved at Committee before Christmas. Furthermore, the latest draft GLA guarantee is between parties for comment.

We intend to place the construction contract early in the New Year with enabling activities for the start of construction set for spring this year.

I would very much welcome a meeting in order to update you further and discuss the outstanding issues in more detail and explore how the Government could help to resolve any matters swiftly, as you so kindly offer. We will be in touch with your office to coordinate.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Lord Davies of Abersoch.

Lord Davies of Abersoch  
Chairman of the Garden Bridge Trust

