

Sent: Thursday, 6 November 2008 10:54 AM

Subject: Train Fares

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed rises in train fares. I live in Quakers Hill, on the Richmond line. During the peak periods there are two services an hour, usually non air-conditioned carriages. Due to the unfulfilled promises of the current government this line has to commute people to work from areas such as Rouse hill.

The number of people that use Quakers Hill station has reached saturation point and is about to explode. Another unfulfilled promise, the duplication of the line, to enable a reasonable service on the line has now been officially cancelled.

Further the proposed rise in train fares will have a detrimental financial impact on myself and my family as my income is the main income in our household. Like everyone else we are affected by rises in food, petrol and other expenses and the rise in train fares is something we can ill afford in this current economic climate.

I can never understand why the government doesn't create more incentives for those who use public transport (such as being able to claim fares as a tax deduction) and create disincentives (such as congestion tax) for those who drive unnecessarily adding to the environmental costs.

I urge you consider the impact on commuters who travel by train who have no choice but to commute in order to make a living.