



Andrew Rosindell M.P.

Member of Parliament for Romford

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Sadiq Khan

Mayor of London City Hall Kamal Chunchie Way LONDON E16 1ZE

Monday 28th November 2022

Dear Mayor Khan

It is with huge disappointment that I write to you regarding the recent announcement that you have decided to expand the Ultra-Low Emissions Zone, extending to my constituency of Romford.

As you will understand there is much anger in Romford about your decision. I have been inundated with letters and e-mails from disgruntled constituents who will now have to incur vast costs merely to drive the cars which they rely on for daily travel, commutes to work, school drop-offs and to go about their daily lives.

Their voices have not been listened to. My constituents completely rejected your plan during the consultation. So why have you decided to go ahead?

I am sure you are aware that 80% of outer London Businesses and Employees, 75% of tourists, and 90% of Black Cab Drivers oppose the expansion of the U.L.E.Z. - a strong indication of where public opinion rests on this issue.

Despite the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and the foreboding winter ahead of us, the congestion charge will be hitting working people's pockets in boroughs which will not be reaping the rewards. Now is not the time to be introducing new costs on working people - inner city boroughs receive most of the G.L.A.'s spending while areas like Havering suffer from chronic underfunding, despite contributing a high proportion of taxation.

The Romford constituency, as you will be aware, has no London Underground station, meaning that the people of Romford rely on their vehicles, more than most parts of Greater London. Yet, now they will either have to change their cars, stop driving or pay huge additional costs to comply with the imposition of U.L.E.Z.

Greater London encompasses many areas with distinct and traditional identities which go back centuries, such as my constituency of Romford which retains its Essex identity. My constituents, many of whom work across the county of Essex, feel a far greater affinity to towns and cities in Essex like Brentwood, Southend and Chelmsford as opposed to inner London. Yet because of your policy, they will be forced to pay a fee to travel from Romford into the wider Essex county.



I call upon you, as the architect behind this decision, to reconsider the expansion of this scheme. My constituents want to continue to be able to travel freely without incurring additional charges.

Otherwise, the movement to take Havering out the outdated idea of 'Greater London' and for our borough to return to being a unitary authority, free of control from City Hall, will grow ever stronger!

My constituents and I look forward to your response.

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Yours ever,

Andrew Rosindell M.P.