



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
Greater London Authority
City Hall
Kamal Chunchie Way
London
E16 1ZE

22 March 2023

Re: Cuts to the 213 and 57 bus routes

Dear Sadiq,

Thank you for your response detailing the difficult funding situation facing London's buses and the reasons behind the cuts to the 213 and 57. While I appreciate the government's lack of support for TfL has meant difficult decisions have had to be made, I would like to draw your attention to the budget amendment that Liberal Democrat Assembly Members put forward earlier this year. These were fully costed and would have provided millions in funding for outer London's buses. However, you and your Labour colleagues took the decision to block them.

In your response, you also detail that the use of the 213 and 57 has fallen and demand can be met with a new reduced service. Many of my constituents who have been crammed onto the overwhelmed routes would disagree. However, even if we accept TfL's data is accurate, these cuts show a critical lack of forward planning.

Your planned expansion of the ULEZ zone is intended to move people out of their cars and onto public transport. It is self-evident that this will result in an increase in use. If TfL does not prepare for this, come August, many services, the 213 and 57 included will be completely overwhelmed.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to return the 213 and 57 to their original schedule. Cutting these vital routes is a mistake, the consequences of which will become even more apparent in a few months' time.

I look forward to reading your response.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Olney MP

