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Dear Mike

First Capital Connect – Thameslink route

I am becoming increasingly concerned about the situation at First Capital Connect, particularly on the Thameslink route.

Prior to Christmas the company was talking positively about the likelihood that the full timetable would be restored from 4 January, following Aslef's decision to recommend acceptance of the revised pay offer. However, the company still cannot give a timescale for the remaining c. 30% of trains to be restored to the timetable and passengers continue to suffer on a daily basis. Clearly, the weather has added to the misery this week.

I am writing to seek an urgent, high-level meeting with the Department and First Capital Connect to discuss how the Thameslink route service is to be restored to an acceptable level.

Yours sincerely,


Anthony Smith
Chief Executive

I have copied this letter to Dr Mike Mitchell, DfT