

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister,

Firstly, thank you for your recent stay in Manchester in what turned out to be a great conference. I hope you enjoyed our hospitality.

I am sure you will agree, this was overshadowed somewhat by speculation of future plans for HS2 and specifically the leg to Manchester and the North. Your keynote speech on Wednesday disappointingly brought the confirmation that so many of my constituents here in Manchester were hoping would not come.

As the newly elected Chairman of the City of Manchester Conservative Federation, I made a pledge in my opening speech to my members that I would listen to them, and this I am doing. While there are many complex areas for and against HS2, the cancellation of the leg between Birmingham and Manchester, when a leg between Birmingham and Euston is to be completed, as an optic shows my members, and constituents that once again, Westminster is not listening to the North, and 'Levelling Up' is just a slogan to get us into power, not a promise.

In order to repair damage this has caused; the money which has been freed up needs to be more targeted. It was discouraging to read that one of the proposals already put forward was for a new Metrolink line from Manchester City Centre to Manchester Airport- a line we have had for nearly 10 years. This doesn't give our government credibility.

Our volunteers & activists are always willing to help your narrative for the wider constituents in the City of Manchester and future consultation with the local party is always welcome. We have a very good structure within the voluntary party with some great working relationships and I would be keen to see these work more closely with those in No.10 on key policy decisions that affect local areas most.

As always, my dedication is to work with my team for the City of Manchester Conservative Federation and I very much look forward to welcoming you and your colleagues back before our next Manchester Conference.

Yours faithfully,



Daniel Bell
Chairman