

# DELIVERING FOR YOU. ACTION NOT WORDS!

Huw Merriman MP  
Minister of State for Rail and HS2  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR



April 2024

Dear Huw,

Thank you for taking the time to meet me at Walton Station on 12 April 2024 to celebrate the new footbridge with lifts that has been installed as a result of Government investment from the 'Access for All' scheme and also to discuss aspirations for further rail improvements across Esher and Walton constituency.

As discussed during your visit, South Western Rail, with the support of Network Rail and Surrey County Council, are bidding for support from the Department for Transport to construct a similar footbridge with lifts between platforms at Esher Station to improve accessibility.

Currently, Esher Station is listed by National Rail Enquiries as a 'category B2' station in terms of accessibility arrangements. Limits to accessibility at Esher Station include no step-free access at the main entrance to the station, no wheelchairs situated at the station and staff unavailable to help with accessibility arrangements.

In forming their bid, South Western Rail and Network Rail have engaged constrictively with Surrey County Council who are in support of the project. Both South Western Railway and Network Rail have demonstrated the case for urgent accessibility improvements to be made at Esher Station.

As you consider projects for the next round of 'Access for All' funding, I would be grateful if you could confirm the application for a new footbridge with lifts at Esher Station will be included.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr John Cope  
Conservative Parliamentary Candidate

**Cllr John Cope**  
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