



**Bim Afolami MP**  
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**Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP,**  
Secretary of State for Transport,  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Grant,

**Transport disruption during the heatwave**

I trust this letter is well received.

The record temperatures of Monday and Tuesday have brought significant strain on our local transport networks for Hitchin & Harpenden constituents.

There has been disruption to local train services – both during the heatwave and since – because of the stress that these extreme temperatures has placed on our railways. I am also told that there was disruption to flights at London Luton Airport as a result of the runway melting on Tuesday.

These disruptions are expected, given that our transport networks were not built to withstand these temperatures, but in a context of global climate change, it is important that we take steps to improve the resilience of British transport so that people can continue to get around.

I would be grateful if you could set out your Department's plans to improve that resilience and ensure that Hitchin & Harpenden constituents are able to get around by air, rail and road in the event of future extreme high temperatures.

I look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,