

Vice-Chancellor's Office

16 February 2021

Councillor Leo Hammond  
East Riding of Yorkshire Council  
County Hall Beverley  
East Riding of Yorkshire  
HU17 9BA

By email: [Conservative.Chairmen@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:Conservative.Chairmen@eastriding.gov.uk)

Dear Councillor Hammond

Thank you for your letter of 12 February and your good wishes. It is a pleasure to hear from an alumnus of the University and I would, of course, be happy to support the Council's bid to re-instate the Beverley to York railway line. I do this on the grounds that:

- robust transport connections are essential to the Humber region, and vital to the University's role regionally, nationally and internationally;
- economic growth and good transport connections go hand-in-hand. Without key transport links, a region is at a significant disadvantage with adverse implications for its prosperity and the future of its people;
- train travel is a popular alternative and alleviates congestion on our roads. Since we are committed to making the University campus accessible to all, improvements to the region's transport system – including the York to Beverley railway line – will be a positive step. By re-instating the line to serve communities such as Market Weighton, Pocklington and Stamford Bridge, it is our hope that more students would be able to consider the University of Hull as an attractive option to study, particularly for those who wish to commute on a daily basis.

In support of the above points, I should also say that, in 2019, the University announced an ambitious eight-year plan to become carbon neutral by 2027, pledging a commitment

towards a strong, sustainable future. Part of our plan to become a carbon neutral organisation by 2027 includes a focus on encouraging staff and students to make sustainable travel choices to and from the University campus. A good rail network is an important aspect of this.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. J. Lea', written in a cursive style.

**Professor Susan J Lea**  
Vice-Chancellor