## BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL USER GROUP

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## STATEMENT ISSUED BY TfL TO BGORUG ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 REGARDING THE CONTINUING DELAY IN THE DELIVERY OF THE CLASS 710 4-CAR EMUs TO LONDON OVERGROUND

I'm writing further to my email last month about our plans to introduce new electric trains on the Gospel Oak to Barking line.

I am very sorry for the continuing delay to the introduction of the new trains. I want to assure you that we are working very hard with all parties to bring the new trains into passenger service as soon as possible. However, the manufacturer, Bombardier Transportation has still not been able to fix the software problems that are causing the delays. Together with the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for Transport, we are continuing to push hard to get the trains running as soon as possible.

As you know, we extended the lease on the diesel trains currently running on the line to account for the delay to the new trains. One of these trains will soon need to be released for use elsewhere in the country, with the remaining trains due to be released by mid March.

Given the continuing delays to the new trains, we are now exploring the option of modifying some other London Overground trains for temporary use on this line. There are a number of considerations that need to be resolved before we can confirm whether this is possible. We are testing a modified train on the line and expect to make a decision on whether it is possible to operate it later this month.

We will keep you and our customers updated, but in the meantime, please do get in touch if you have any questions. Please be assured that we will continue to do all we can to minimise disruption for customers.

Regards,

Local Communities & Partnerships | Public Affairs & External Relations | Transport for London