



The Hammersmith Society

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The Baroness Vere of Norbiton
The House of Lords

Dear Lady Vere

Crossing the river at Hammersmith

In the Hammersmith Society letter of 29 September we welcomed the arrival of the Task Force to save our river crossing, emphasising our overriding concern for the restoration of a river crossing, both temporary and permanent.

At the Task Force zoom meeting last month we were greatly encouraged by the government confirmation of their readiness to fund the entire project. But making the funds conditional on local contribution drags in the kind of financial problems faced by local authorities across the country; these problems are common knowledge, and their resolution is an entirely separate issue to the Bridge, and must surely not be allowed to hold up the funding of the Bridge.

Government funds need to be released immediately: park the squabble with local authorities for resolution at a different forum.

From the Society's apolitical viewpoint, we are aware that the considerable anger and frustration of communities on both sides of the river (including members of the Hammersmith Society) has been further aggravated by the government holding back spending on Hammersmith Bridge, a principal infrastructure route, while announcing spending of sums ten times the Bridge budget on infrastructure projects elsewhere.

Let's raise the Task Force to moonshot status: launch the funds and restore the Hammersmith river crossing without further delay.

Yours sincerely
Richard Winterton
Chairman

An Amenity Group concerned with Planning and Conservation in Hammersmith since 1962

Patron: The Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham
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