

Dear Editor,

Why is it so hard to get to work? That is the question I ask myself every time I use Southern - the third worst train company in the UK, after Southeastern and Thameslink - all owned by Govia. Yet despite broken down trains, delays, staff shortages, overcrowding, short train formations and the Bermuda Triangle equivalent of missing trains, no one in government seems to care.

Even though we're paying the highest fares in Europe, helping to redistribute our hard-earned salaries and taxes into huge bonuses for poor performing executives, while subsidising commuters abroad - Govia is part owned by the French state owned railway SNCF - the rail minister Claire Perry is all steam and no motion.

After commuting to and from work, paying twice for the privilege in taxes and high fares, we deserve a reliable, clean, secure and modern railway. What we get is a carriage full of excuses.

Yours faithfully,

Cllr Paul Bell, London Borough of Lewisham