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## **NEWS RELEASE - Immediate**

**Wednesday, 14 September 2011**

### **Plans for 2<sup>nd</sup> Metrolink line in Manchester City Centre**

TravelWatch North West, (TWNW), the independent passenger champion in North West England, has recently responded to Transport for Greater Manchester's (TfGM) consultation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Metrolink City Crossing.

TWNW Chair Chris Dale said "we support the concept of a second city crossing and we agree with the selection of the Cross Street route in preference to Deansgate. However we are concerned about the proposal for just one intermediate stop, at Exchange Square, between Victoria and St Peters Square."

"There should ideally be an additional stop in the Albert Square area or if only one new stop is to be provided we urge TfGM to reconsider the possibility of a stop in the Royal Exchange area to give a better spacing of stops."

TWNW is also concerned that the removal of some bus route sections and turning movements will result in severe adverse impacts on bus services in the city centre, including the three MetroShuttle services and has sought reassurance that there will not be a substantial reduction in accessibility for buses which carry considerably more passengers than the Metrolink system.

**ENDS**

*(The full response is on our website - [www.travelwatch-northwest.org.uk](http://www.travelwatch-northwest.org.uk))*

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