

Mark Eastwood MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State **Guy Opperman MP**

Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000

E-Mail: guy.opperman@dft.gov.uk

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

64M May 2024

Dear Mark,

Thank you for meeting me at the MP surgery on 15 April to discuss concerns around speed cameras and potholes. I would be happy to respond to your queries in further detail.

As discussed, please find further detail below on the breakdown of Network North funding and guidance for how this could be spent on roads safety. Of the £36 billion of reallocated HS2 funds, £19.8 billion will go to the North, £9.6 billion to the Midlands, and £6.5 billion to other national projects and schemes (subject to the approval of business cases).

While we are still working through the funding details and all work will be subject to usual governance and business planning processes, I have set out some key projects and work from the Network North announcement that will benefit West Yorkshire below:

- £3 billion for a plan to connect the great Northern cities, bringing Hull, Sheffield and Bradford into the Northern Powerhouse Rail network.
- £2 billion for new rail station and line connection for Bradford to give a 30 minute journey to Manchester via Huddersfield.
- An additional £12 billion to enable Northern Powerhouse Rail to proceed in line with previous plans to better connect Liverpool and Manchester.

- A further £2 billion of additional funding has been allocated to continue delivery of West Yorkshire Mass Transit in City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS)3 and beyond, improving connections between Leeds and Bradford, Huddersfield and Halifax.
- A £789 million uplift to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CRSTS indicative round 2 allocation.
- A minimum additional uplift of Highways Maintenance funding from 2023-24 to 2033-34 of £309 million for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

This funding shows our commitment to local transport, which is one of our Levelling Up missions.

Road safety guidance

Britain's roads are some of the safest in the world, but we are always looking at ways to help keep drivers and all road users safe. To date £185.8 million has been allocated to local authorities in England, via the Government's Safer Roads Fund to improve the safety of 99 of the most high-risk A roads.

Local authorities are responsible for the management of local roads, within the rules set by Government, including setting local speed limits where the national limit would not be appropriate. Local authorities are required by statute to promote road safety; to undertake collision/casualty data analysis and to devise programmes, including engineering and road user education, training and publicity that will improve road safety.

The Department for Transport continues to work closely with local authorities and the Road Safety Foundation, to provide tailored safety interventions specific to each road's risk, encouraging safe system principles and improving infrastructure for active travel. This scheme is expected to save 2600 lives over the next 20 years and is already improving safety for all road users.

Additionally, as mentioned above, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will receive uplifts to both their CRSTS2 allocations and Highways Maintenance funding. The Department recommend engaging directly with the Combined Authority to discuss how this funding could be

used to help improve roads safety as it is at their discretion to direct how this funding is used (within the guidelines set for each fund).

Best wishes,

GUY OPPERMAN MP

MINISTER FOR ROADS AND LOCAL TRANSPORT