



Department for Transport

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8 July 2025

Dear Paul,

Middlewich Eastern Bypass

Following receipt of your Full Business Case for the above scheme, I am pleased to confirm that Ministers have agreed to grant the scheme Full (final) Approval.

As part of this approval the Department will provide a maximum capped funding contribution of **£48.037m** towards an estimated total scheme cost of £97.941m. This figure includes £1.257m funding from the Department prior to 2020/21. Cheshire East Council is solely responsible for meeting any expenditure over and above this maximum amount.

Funding will be paid as capital grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. We will write separately with a formal letter of grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Based on your financial spend forecasts in the quarter 4 quarterly monitoring report (2024/25) submitted to the Department, we intend to provide the remaining grant in the following financial years:

2025/26 - £23.476m

2026/27 - £22.876m

2027/28 - £0.428m

This approval is on the condition that:

- i) suitable crossing provision should be provided where stub roundabout arms are included in the scheme for future connection to development sites, as and when these become active; and

- ii) the section of Pochin Way from the north end of the scheme to the Holmes Chapel Road/A54 roundabout should be prioritised for future development of active travel provision by the Council outside the scope of this scheme.

Every effort should be made to avoid slippage. As explained above, we will not be able to increase our contribution in future years if there is any cost increase.

The Department reserves the right to seek reimbursement from your authority of any payments made relating in respect of this grant award if the scheme is not constructed.

We expect you to keep us closely informed of progress with, and expenditure on, the scheme - the simplest way to deal with this for the quarterly monitoring reports to completed and returned by the due dates and to keep us informed of other significant developments as soon as they occur.

The Government's contribution to the scheme should be advertised in any publicity information that you produce. You are required to use 'Funded by UK Government' branding that helps the citizen to quickly identify Government-supported work. A copy of the Cabinet Office guidance can be found [here](#). The logo is attached to the email conveying this letter as a ZIP file. The logo should be displayed on signage, construction site hoardings, websites, public-facing printed material and press releases or media announcements.

Please provide written confirmation that the Council agrees to the terms of this letter, including certification from your Section 151 Office that the Council accepts the above terms.

I look forward to seeing progress with the construction of the scheme and to its subsequent completion.

I am copying this letter to Owen Wilson at Transport for the North.

Yours sincerely,



James Henderson