



Department for Transport

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23 July 2025

Dear Ashley,

Award of Section 31 Grant for Financial Year 2025/26

The attached document sets out the detailed terms and conditions on which the Secretary of State for Transport is prepared to award grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 (s31) to the authorities listed in Annex A for the schemes specified therein for the financial year 2025/26. The attached grant award is made with the approval of HM Treasury.

The award of the s31 grant will be provided under the terms and conditions detailed in the attached grant determination. Acceptance by your authority of the award is acceptance of those terms and conditions.

If the expenditure accrued on the scheme in prior years was lower than the Department's total grant payments relating to those years, any over-paid grant will be recovered by the Department through a reduction of grant paid in 2025/26. The Department will not meet any grant claims that would result in the agreed annual grant allocation being exceeded.

The information contained in this letter and the attached documents should be brought to the attention of all relevant staff in the Council. The Council's Chief Finance Officer is required to sign and return the acceptance slip below as evidence of your acceptance of the terms and conditions under which this grant is awarded.

If you have any queries about the contents of this letter or the attached grant terms and conditions, please contact me either by phone on 07966 511804 or by e-mail at robertS.fox@dft.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Robert S Fox

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ACCEPTANCE DECLARATION

Middlewich Eastern Bypass

I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE S31 GRANT LETTER FOR CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL FOR 2025/26 AND

I ACCEPT THE GRANT OFFER FOR AND ON BEHALF OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET OUT IN THIS LETTER AND THE ANNEXES TO THIS LETTER. I CONFIRM THAT I AM LAWFULLY AUTHORISED TO DO SO

SIGNED (CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER).....

PLEASE PRINT NAME.....

DATE.....

Please return to the Department for Transport: s31majorprojects@dft.gov.uk – a scanned pdf is acceptable

Grant Determination for the Local Authority Major Project Grant No: 31/7939

The Secretary of State for Transport (“the Secretary of State”), in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, hereby makes the following determination:

Citation

1. This determination may be cited as the Local Authority Major Project Grant Determination for 2025-26 No 31/7939.

Purpose of the grant

2. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to receiving authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or accrued by them as capital costs of for the scheme specified in Annex A, in the year up to 31st March 2026.

Determination

3. The Secretary of State determines:

(a) that the authorities listed in Annex A are the authorities to which grant under this determination is to be paid; and

(b) that the maximum amount of grant payable to each authority in respect of 2025-26 shall be the amount shown against the name of the authority in Annex A.

Treasury consent

4. Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Secretary of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Grant conditions

5. Pursuant to section 31(3) and 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003, the Secretary of State determines that the grant will be paid subject to the conditions in Annex B.



Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

23 July 2025

Annex A – Authorities to which grant is to be paid and maximum amount of grant to be paid

Local Authority	Scheme	Grant Type	2025/26 Grant Allocation (£)
Buckinghamshire Council	South East Aylesbury Link Road	Capital	12,422,728
Cheshire East Council	Middlewich Eastern Bypass	Capital	23,475,881
Devon County Council	A382 Drumbridges to Newton Abbot	Capital	15,726,419
East Sussex County Council	A22 Corridor Package (Development Costs)	Capital	3,167,869
Essex County Council	A127/A130 Fairglen Interchange	Capital	13,500,000
Essex County Council	Army & Navy Sustainable Transport Package (Development Costs)	Capital	834,444
Kent County Council	North Thanet Link (Development Costs)	Capital	3,269,886
North Yorkshire Council	A59 Kex Gill	Capital	10,066,265
Plymouth City Council	A374/A386/A364 Plymouth MRN Phase 1 (Development Costs)	Capital	960,500
Plymouth City Council	A38 Manadon Interchange (Development Costs)	Capital	4,028,240
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council	A34 MRN Cheadle – Handforth Improvement Plan Phase 1	Capital	4,218,729
Wiltshire Council	A350 Chippenham Bypass Phases 4 and 5	Capital	13,988,305
Wiltshire Council	A350/M4 Junction 17 Improvements (Development Costs)	Capital	823,138
TOTAL			106,482,404

Annex B – Grant conditions

Grant Conditions

1. Grant paid to local authorities under this determination may be used only for the purposes for which a capital receipt may be used in accordance with regulations made under section 11 of the Local Government Act 2003.
2. The Chief Executive and Chief Internal Auditor of each recipient authority is required to sign and return to the Section 31 Grant Claims Manager (Local Authority Major Schemes) in the Department for Transport a declaration, to be received no later than six months after the physical completion of the relevant scheme(s), in the following terms:

“To the best of our knowledge and belief, and having carried out appropriate investigations and checks, in our opinion, in all significant respects, the conditions attached to the Local Authority Major Project Grant Determination 2025-26 No: 31/7939 have been complied with.”
3. If an authority fails to comply with any of the conditions and requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Secretary of State may:
 - a) reduce, suspend or withhold grant; or
 - b) by notification in writing to the authority, require the repayment of the whole or any part of the grant.
4. Any sum notified by the Secretary of State under paragraph 3 (b) shall immediately become repayable to the Secretary of State.