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From Cllr Woodbridge

21 JAN 2011

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (CIF)

Thank you for your letter of 15 November to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP in relation to the Norwich Northern Distributor Route (NNDR) and its link to Postwick Hub (PH) scheme funded from the Community Infrastructure Scheme jointly managed by DCLG and DfT. I am replying because this falls within my Ministerial responsibilities.

As you know a funding allocation for Postwick Junction was made in the Community Infrastructure Fund (£21m) in March 2009 by the previous Government. However release of funding was dependent on a number of requirements for further work, as part of the more extensive work on the case being made for the larger linked scheme – the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (the NNDR). There are major interdependencies between the schemes. You will be aware that following the Comprehensive Spending Review outcome in October last year, the Department of Transport has written to local authorities asking them to update the value for money case for schemes previously accepted for Programme Entry, including the NNDR, given the need to prioritise and rationalise the local authority major schemes programme overall. In view of the statutory processes involved, and the interdependency between the schemes, the Community Infrastructure Fund allocation of £21m made in March 2009 was transferred from DCLG to DfT's major schemes programme to be held against the Postwick Junction scheme pending a final decision on NNDR. This remains the position.

In summary therefore the conditional funding award for Postwick still stands but is dependent on the overall case for the NNDR.

I am copying this to Norman Baker MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport.

For the Secretary

GREG CLARK MP