

Department for
Transport

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Dear Mike,

NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD

As you will be aware the Government announced the outcome of the Spending Review on 20 October and this Department announced plans for major schemes on 26 October as set out in the attached document "Investment in Local Major Transport Schemes".

I am now writing to confirm the position for the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NNDR). For the purposes of prioritising investments, the NNDR as approved in December 2009 and the CIF scheme at Postwick Hub are being considered as a single scheme, given their interdependencies.

The Spending Review settlement means that we are able to provide over £1.5 billion for local authority major schemes in the period up to 2014/15, of which over £900m is available for schemes that are not yet committed. While this is a good outcome for local major schemes, the full pipeline of schemes prioritised under the previous system of Regional Funding Allocations is not affordable and tough decisions will be necessary to get the best value from the available public funding. That is why we have set out a process to prioritise and rationalise the programme.

To undertake this prioritisation we have divided schemes already granted Programme Entry and schemes with valid bids for Programme Entry lodged with DfT before June 10th 2010 into three pools; the Supported Pool; the Development Pool; and the Pre-Qualification Pool.

Norwich Northern Distributor Road is in the Development Pool. This means we are satisfied that the scheme offers value for money based on the information currently available to the Department but we will not be able to fund all such schemes. We therefore intend to do more detailed work with promoters to ensure that we have consistent and comparable value for money evidence for all schemes in this pool and to provide you with the opportunity to submit any additional detailed value for money evidence. We will also seek the views of Local Enterprise Partnerships and other interested parties. We will write again very soon to invite you to submit an expression of interest by the end of December 2010 and provide you with more technical details of the further evidence that we will require. As a general principle this will be no more than is

necessary to ensure that we are assessing schemes on a level playing field basis, and we are keen to engage with you closely throughout the process. Final decisions on which schemes will be taken forward for funding will be made by the end of 2011, and successful schemes will receive a revised Programme Entry approval.

Any agreement to fund your scheme will be conditional on the successful completion of all necessary statutory processes. Receipt of this letter will allow the relevant statutory processes, currently placed on hold, to resume. However, the Secretary of State will not be able to announce his final decision on the statutory orders until the final funding decision has been made.

If you have any further questions please contact me.

I am copying this letter to Tim Freathy at Government Office for the Eastern Region

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Sunderland