



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Louise Haigh MP  
Department for Transport  
33 Horseferry Road  
London SW1P 4DR

6th August 2024

Dear Secretary of State

I write following the recent response by the Minister for Local Transport to my question regarding the Local Transport Fund.

As you are aware, the previous government cancelled the Northern leg of HS2 following years of delay and overrun. Like you, I believed the original intention of HS2 was sound, but circumstances conspired to make it impractical to continue the line.

This created a unique chance, taken by the previous Prime Minister, to use those funds to give local authorities, and therefore local people, the chance to transform transport in northern regions of England, which have long been neglected.

I know this from first-hand experience. Over my nineteen years as Member of Parliament for Beverley and Holderness, convincing central government, whatever party is in power, to support individual schemes has been challenging.

I would submit that devolving this money to local authorities would mean that no community need be left behind.

Following the announcement of East Riding of Yorkshire's £168 million Local Transport Fund, I immediately set up a survey to encourage community engagement into how they wanted to see the funds be spent.

The results have been instructive, and well received by the Local Authority in numerous conversations with the Leader and Chief Executive.

Most importantly, local people feel excited at the prospect for transport transformation in the area. From schemes as small as traffic management and speeding restrictions to funding a Business Study for the proposed new railway between York and Hull, there are many schemes which local people are looking forward to being supported by the Local Transport Fund.

I am concerned that Mr Lightwood's response to my question of 25th July was non-committal.

I hope that you will maintain the Local Transport Fund for East Riding of Yorkshire and thereby encourage local communities to be engaged in improving transport at a local level.

Yours ever

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Stuart'.

Cc: Simon Lightwood MP

*Working hard for Beverley and Holderness*

01482 679687

[grahamstuartmp@parliament.uk](mailto:grahamstuartmp@parliament.uk) [www.grahamstuart.com](http://www.grahamstuart.com)