

Letter from the Transport Minister – money for resurfacing roads and potholes

Please find enclosed below the letter that I have received from the Secretary of State for Transport on how much Wokingham will received for resurfacing roads and filling potholes:

Dear John,

Local Roads Resurfacing Funding

I am writing with details of how the Government is helping local authorities in your constituency to resurface more roads and fill more potholes.

We are providing **£8.3 billion** of extra roads resurfacing funding for English local highway authorities between 2023/24 to 2033/34. This money will, over time, transform the condition of local roads, allowing all road users smoother, faster, and safer trips - paid for with savings delivered by the Prime Minister's decision to cancel HS2 Phase 2. All HS2 savings that would have been spent in the North or the Midlands will still be spent there, with savings from a revised approach to delivering Euston station shared across the rest of the country.

Individual [highway authorities' allocations](#) are online, as is the [Network North Command Paper](#), which makes it clear this funding is in addition to transport funding from the last Spending Review and on top of what authorities were expecting to receive.

As per the command paper, every penny committed to the Northern leg will go to the North, every penny committed to the Midlands leg to the Midlands, and every penny saved from our new arrangement for Euston station will be spread across every other region in the country.

Wokingham is covered by two local authorities in receipt of this additional funding: West Berkshire and Wokingham. The table below sets out the funding that West Berkshire and Wokingham are receiving in the current year and the total additional funding they will be receiving over the years from 2023/24 to 2033/34.

You will naturally want to ensure that your constituents benefit in full from this funding uplift, and you may therefore wish to raise this as appropriate in meetings with your local authority leaders and the relevant local cabinet

members to ensure that West Berkshire and Wokingham are putting the money to good use and complying with the new reporting requirements that the Government has introduced, as set out below. You may, for example, wish to ask which roads they are intending to resurface and/or which other highway assets (such as bridges) they are intending to maintain with the additional funding.

Local authority	Funding increase for 2023/24 made possible by reallocated HS2 funding	Funding increase for 2023/24 announced at Spring Budget 2023	2023/24 total funding including baseline set at SR21	2023/24 approx. % increase on 2022/23	Total indicative additional funding allocation 2023/24 to 2033/34
West Berkshire	£679,000	£957,600	£7,023,600	30%	£21,279,000
Wokingham	£418,000	£589,200	£4,321,200	30%	£13,095,000

Table note: The funding increase made possible by reallocated HS2 funding is part of the £8.3 billion uplift for roads resurfacing; £150 million is being allocated for the 2023/24 financial year. The Spring Budget in March 2023 allocated an additional £200 million for highways maintenance for the 2023/24 financial year. Total funding is these two funding allocations in addition to the £915 million baseline fund for eligible local authorities outside of London and those receiving City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) set at Spending Review 2021. CRSTS allocations, along with all allocations highlighted in this table, can be found on gov.uk.

To ensure transparency we are asking all authorities to publish on their websites:

- by 15 March 2024 a summary of the additional resurfacing work they will deliver with the new funding over the next 2 years;
- thereafter quarterly reports, with the first by the end of June 2024, summarising the additional work they have done and listing the roads that they have resurfaced; and
- later in 2024/25 a long-term plan for their use of the full 11-year funding and the transformation it will deliver.

I hope this significant investment in your constituency is welcome news, and no doubt you will work closely with your local authorities to ensure that it makes the most positive difference for your constituents.

Yours sincerely,



**The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT**