



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON  
SW1A 0AA

**Nadhim Zahawi MP**  
*Member of Parliament for Stratford on Avon*

Jesse Norman MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Roads, Local Transport and Devolution  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Our Ref: ZA22657

11 July 2017

Dear Jesse

**Re: Stratford upon Avon funding bid**

As you know from our previous discussions, the principal town of my constituency, Stratford upon Avon, suffers from chronic congestion problems. There is a worrying lack of appropriate and sufficient infrastructure to handle the volume of people coming to and from the town and I have been committed to rectifying this since I was first elected in 2010.

Over the last few years I have held a series of transport summits and chaired various public meetings to bring together the necessary figures from local government to find a long-term solution. The overwhelming priority to have come out of all of these gatherings has been the urgent need to improve the Birmingham Road, our principal gateway and thoroughfare in the town.

On the back of these summits and meetings, I have worked closely with the District and County Councils in preparing a scheme to alleviate this congestion. I am pleased to say that the scheme has been presented to the Department for Transport's National Productivity Investment Fund in the hope of a grant of £2.4 million (of a total scheme of £3.5 million).

The scheme is vital to the continued economic prosperity of Stratford and would go a long way to provide vital infrastructure for the town's thriving tourism industry. I know you will be unable to comment on the application process with regards to specific bids, but I would be most grateful if you could provide whatever support you can to ensure this bid is given full consideration. Do please let me know if you require any further information.

Incidentally, it might be worth me introducing you to Councillor Peter Richards – the Housing and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder at Stratford on Avon District Council – in due course. He has been working extensively on a number of infrastructure projects and on the overall transport strategy for the Stratford upon Avon area. I have no doubt that these projects would be of significant interest to you. Certainly his thoughts on improved train infrastructure could help integration on a national level.

I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zahawi'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'N'.

Nadhim Zahawi