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5 July 2011

Dear Alistair Cox,

West of England Key Commuter Routes

I am pleased to inform you that Ministers have approved the above Key Component bid to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, submitted in April. I can tell you that we received a very healthy response to the Fund and a large number of bids which Ministers fully considered before arriving at their decisions.

This was a clearly themed bid that fits together well, with strong alignment with the Fund's objectives.

The Department's funding contribution to the project will be paid as resource and capital grant on the basis of the expenditure profile set out in your bid document. There will be no opportunity to carry forward any unspent funds into subsequent financial years. In order to manage funding levels nationally, we would be open to any requests to bring forward expenditure from 2012/13 into 2011/12. Please contact Richard Mace (richard.mace@dft.gsi.gov.uk; 020 7944 6647) should you wish to do so.

We will write to you shortly with a formal offer of grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The letter will include the full terms and conditions under which the grant is to be provided. These conditions will include accepting full financial responsibility for the project going forward and a commitment to submitting quarterly reports to the Department on progress and expenditure. You will be asked to confirm these conditions in writing.

Thank you for taking the time to develop your bid to the Fund. My team and I look forward to working with you and we wish you every success in implementing the project and realising the benefits for your local communities.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica Matthew