



Department
for Transport

From the Secretary of State
Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP

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Councillor Liz Leffman
Chair, England's Economic Heartland
Via email

cc: Naomi Green, CEO

24 February 2025

Dear Councillor Leffman,

England's Economic Heartland Funding Allocation 2025/2026

I wanted to write to confirm the funding allocation for England's Economic Heartland, following the approval of your business plan for the next financial year 2025/2026 of **£1,522,667**.

This is in recognition of all the work you have done supporting the Government's Missions and the way in which you have worked collaboratively with the Department for Transport and our delivery bodies as a supportive partner.

I recognise the role Sub-national Transport Bodies (STBs) can play in supporting both local and national government priorities such as economic growth and housing. Going forward I ask that you focus on:

- Delivering a pan-regional approach through developing regional transport strategies.
- Focussing on pan-regional connectivity and integration.
- Supporting local authorities' capacity & capability through providing access to STB modelling and analysis tools and expertise.

Now that I have agreed your business plan, my officials will send you a funding and governance agreement and a Grant Determination Form for your accountable Section 151 officer to sign and return. Following this, the funding will be granted under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, in the financial year 2025/2026.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT