



Department
for Transport

From the Permanent Secretary

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Dame Meg Hillier MP

Chair, Public Accounts Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

[Sent via email]

Dear Dame Meg,

Follow-up to the session of Monday 29 April 2024

I write following your Committee's recent oral evidence session on Monday 29 April 2024. This is in reference to recommendation 6A in the Treasury Minute, following the HS2 and Euston PAC session in November 2023:

The Department should, alongside its Treasury Minute response, report to the Committee on how it intends to report and update the list of projects by region that will be funded through money redirected to Network North, over what timescale projects will be delivered, and how it will ensure value for money will be achieved.

We accepted this recommendation and noted it as 'implemented'; our response outlined that progress will be reported against individual schemes when appropriately matured.

Since the initial announcement in October 2023, progress on Network North has been published in the form of government announcements on individual schemes. The Department is preparing a more comprehensive letter to provide the Committee with further details in response to the questions raised on the tracking of progress of Network North schemes.

In the evidence session, I set out that the £36bn expenditure would be spent in line with when savings are released from HS2. On ensuring value for money, I also outlined that we will be looking at specific business cases as we go through the formal decision-making processes; we expect these to be subject to regular appraisals.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Bernadette Kelly DCB
Permanent Secretary