



Transport Committee

Jo Shanmugalingam
Permanent Secretary
Department for Transport

By email

17 March 2026

Dear Jo,

Updating DfT's Estimate Structure

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 2026 consulting the Committee on proposed changes to the names of rows in the Department's Estimates. The Committee is happy with these changes and agrees they will help to promote clarity.

We are keen to ensure that enough detail is provided alongside these on items under each heading, and note that Annex A of the Estimates Memorandum will provide detailed breakdowns of each row. In particular, we would be grateful if the Department would continue to provide clear breakdowns of spending on individual initiatives and policies within Estimate row G, "Support for buses", and for each of the projects included in Estimate row P (notably HS2, Northern Powerhouse Rail and Euston).

I am grateful for your efforts towards enhancing the Estimates Memorandum to ensure that there are clear links between the Department's spending and its strategic objectives. As you know, this is a matter on which we have [previously corresponded](#) with the Secretary of State. I welcome your officials working with House of Commons officials to progress this and we look forward to seeing the outcome in this year's Main Estimates Memorandum if possible.

I hope that, alongside the forthcoming Strategic Plan for the Department, this will give the Committee a solid evidence base for scrutinising spending plans.

Thank you

Kind regards

Ruth Cadbury MP
Chair, Transport Committee