



Department
for Transport

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From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling

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I am pleased to be writing to you as Chair of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to set out the details of WMCA's allocation from the Transforming Cities Fund. As announced at Autumn Budget 2017, WMCA will be receiving £250 million in capital grant from central government for transport investment programmes.

In establishing this fund, the Government aims to transform intra-city connectivity, supporting access to jobs across England's largest city regions and driving productivity. Investment should be focused on improving public and sustainable transport, helping to reduce congestion and improve air quality, and I encourage WMCA to consider use of new mobility systems and technology.

These allocations are being provided directly to Mayoral Combined Authorities to take investment decisions according to their own priorities. This is a new approach which demonstrates the Government's commitment to devolved decision-making for city regions. I strongly encourage you to ensure transport investment supports the wider local growth objectives of the West Midlands, and to engage the support of local stakeholders to maximise the impact of this funding, as I am sure you will.

Funding will be provided over four years to 2021/22, as detailed below, and will be a single grant for the West Midlands. As such, it will be your decision what transport investments you prioritise with this funding.

| 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | Total |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| £18m | £57m | £74m | £101m | £250m |

Patricia Hayes, Director General of Roads, Devolution and Motoring will be writing to Deborah Cadman shortly, outlining more detail of the grant, and our expectations about transparency and ensuring value for money.

I understand WMCA intend to take forward the Midland Metro extension to Brierley Hill, and I look forward to hearing more about the programmes in which WMCA wish to invest.

The Transforming Cities Fund marks an important step in our support of elected mayors. I hope we can build on this progress; my Department stands ready to support you in developing your plans to ensure they have maximum benefit to the city region. I look forward to working with you and with the West Midlands Combined Authority to this end.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.H. Grayling', written in a cursive style.

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT