



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP

*Secretary of State for Housing, Communities
and Local Government*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and
Local Government**

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Nick Abell
Interim Chair, Coventry and Warwickshire
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Tim Pile
Chair, Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP

Tom Westley
Chair, Black Country LEP

1 July 2020

Dear Andy, Nick, Tim, Tom,

Getting Building Fund: Local infrastructure projects to drive economic growth

Yesterday the Prime Minister set out the government's 'New Deal', delivering jobs, skills and infrastructure for Britain. As part of that announcement the Prime Minister announced the government will be making £900m available through the new Getting Building Fund investing in local infrastructure projects to drive economic growth.

I am pleased to confirm that the West Midlands Combined Authority area will receive up to £66m. Warwickshire will separately receive up to £8.1m. The allocations are based on population and Covid-19 exposure and resilience. No funding relating to overlapping geographies is included in this allocation.

On 10 June I wrote to you asking you to put forward proposals for "shovel ready" projects that could be delivered within the next 18 months. I was pleased to see such a significant number of innovative and deliverable projects come forward. These projects will now be the basis of a negotiation with my department, taking into account the fit with the criteria in my letter around deliverability, and strategic fit with the priority objectives outlined.

On 3 June, the Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government Simon Clarke MP wrote to all Mayors, making clear our expectation that Mayors will lead economic recovery planning in their regions, collaborating closely with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) and other local partners. I would therefore like the West Midlands

Mayor to lead and coordinate a discussion with the Combined Authority Board and the three LEP Chairs to agree a single prioritised list of projects to be funded from the WMCA allocation. As Warwickshire is not a constituent of the Combined Authority the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP will need to prepare a prioritised list for that area.

My officials from the Cities and Local Growth Unit will be in touch in the coming days but I would like these discussions to be concluded by 17 July, with a final suite of projects agreed with Government, and locally within your MCA and LEPs.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Jenrick." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke underneath the name.

RT HON ROBERT JENRICK MP

**SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**