



# Department for Transport

The Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

From the Secretary of State  
The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps

Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000  
E-Mail: [grant.shapps@dft.gov.uk](mailto:grant.shapps@dft.gov.uk)

Web site: [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

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Thank you for your letter of 16 August 2019 about possible funding sources for the proposed Farthinghoe Bypass on the A422 in Northamptonshire.

On 20 July the Department announced £350 million of funding to improve local highways over the next four years. Of that funding, £150 million is for the Local Pinch Point Fund in 2021/22 and 2022/23, as set out in Budget 2018. The Fund could improve matters in Farthinghoe as it aims to tackle congestion hotspots on the local highway network in England outside London.

It is encouraging to hear of your support for a scheme to relieve traffic congestion on this section of the A422. At this early stage the Department has asked for Expressions of Interest from local highway authorities by 31 January 2020.

My officials have contacted your Senior Parliamentary Assistant regarding the application process. Officials have also contacted Northamptonshire County Council and have sent the authority an Expression of Interest form for it to complete and return to the Department for Transport with its proposals. Ministers will then consider those received and decide on a shortlist of proposals for which the successful local authorities will then be asked to submit a more detailed business case for funding.

Yours ever,

**Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP**

**SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT**