
Sent: 31 March 2014 13:52
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: A14 Freedom of Information request

Dear Mr Fox,

I write in response to your Freedom of Information request dated 6 March 2013, reference CRS 705,159.

At the time of the public consultation on route options, held in autumn 2013, the improvement scheme was to be funded through a combination of Central Government, regional funding partners and tolling receipts from road users. Specifically, the spending review announcement of June 2013 confirmed that HM Treasury will make up to £1.5bn available to fund the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme with tolling receipts and much of the local government funding being recovered over a 25-year period.

In terms of savings to the scheme due to the stage of the project a tolling strategy had been developed to consider the impact of tolling on scheme economics and the likely diversionary effect arising from its introduction; however toll tariffs and tolling infrastructure were at a concept stage and subject to further development and consultation with the public.

The *technical review of options*, published as part of the consultation last year, details further the scheme economics, funding and estimated cost of the tolled scheme options. The *technical review of options* is available on the improvement scheme's webpage <http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a14-cambridge-to-huntingdon-improvement-scheme/>

While the Government provided £1.5 billion of funding as part of the spending review for a proposed option that initially included provision for tolling, with this now removed the latest estimated cost is an anticipated range between £1.1 to £1.6, with a mid point of £1.3 billion. This range estimate, produced by the Highways Agency Commercial team recognises the degree of risk and uncertainty, including inflation that remains as we develop the design of a major and complex infrastructure improvement.

The majority of the funding will continue to be provided by HM Treasury with a contribution of up to £100 million from local funding partners.

Following the Government's decision in December 2013 not to toll the A14 work has concentrated on reassessing the performance of the scheme options. As part of the Development Consent Order process, a ten week statutory pre-application consultation will begin on Monday 7 April and run until 15 June. A series of public exhibitions have been arranged at 31 locations along the A14 corridor with exhibition materials and panels also available on the website. <http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/A14-Cambridge-to-Huntingdon-Improvement-Scheme>

Kind regards,

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