



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

**Dr Thérèse Coffey MP**  
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Cllr Ranjit Banwait  
Leader  
Derby City Council  
The Council House  
Corporation Street  
Derby  
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23 March 2018

Dear Cllr Banwait

I wrote to you on 13 March to follow-up our earlier meeting on 28 February regarding Derby's progress on plans to deliver compliance with statutory nitrogen dioxide concentration limits in the shortest possible time. In the meeting, we discussed the detailed evidence which the Government must see urgently to give us confidence that you will be able to submit a full business case in September, with an immediate step being to provide the Outline Business Case. Unfortunately, we have still not seen the evidence that we had expected and I feel I must write to you again.

Since our meeting, and despite your assurances, your team has not provided any new material on your proposal for a local scrappage scheme or any of the other evidence we require for the Outline Business Case. Instead we have been told you would not be able to share any new evidence with JAQU until after the local election in Derby. This is an extremely disappointing situation as it was my understanding that we had agreed a positive and collaborative way forward when we met. I also do not think this is helped by the very recent local press reports in which you have suggested potential legal action against the Government.

May I reiterate that my officials remain ready and committed to work closely with yours (including during local purdah) to accelerate the work but to do this we must, without delay, start to see the evidence that we have repeatedly requested. I appreciate local purdah starts on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, but your officials have committed to sending us, by 6<sup>th</sup> April, a forward plan that shows the steps they will take in order to deliver a full business case to us by the 15<sup>th</sup> September. I would also like you to commit to following the forward plan up by providing us with the Outline Business Case no later than the end of May. A commitment to these dates would represent tangible and positive steps forward. However, I must make clear that without this information being provided in this timeframe, it would be very difficult for me to see how the final September deadline could then be met. I would then have to seriously consider all options open to Ministers.

I do hope you understand how concerned I am on this issue and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

**DR THERESE COFFEY MP**

