



Department for
Transport

From the Secretary of State

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As Dave,

Thank you for your letter of 22 January, raising the issue of the damage that local authorities consider has been caused to local roads by this winter's severe weather.

The Government is aware that a number of local authorities have made public their view that considerable damage has occurred to their local roads because of this winter's severe weather.

You asked if this Department could allocate £100 million to local authorities in 2009-10 to support the repair work to local roads which is thought to be necessary by the Local Government Association.

You will have seen that as part of the Budget the Chancellor announced £100 million of funding for local authorities to repair the damage to their highways, following the extreme weather experienced over the winter. This funding is exceptional, recognizing that this has been the most prolonged period of severe winter weather for 30 years. My Department has written to all Chief Executives of English highway authorities to explain how arrangements for distributing this funding will operate in England.

Of the £100 million announced, the Department for Transport will be distributing £84 million to English local highway authorities (including London), with the remainder being made available to the devolved administrations. Like you, we are conscious of the need to make progress in making the repairs, and we therefore propose to distribute the funds via a formula based on the road length component of the Department's highways maintenance capital funding formula.

Yours ever,

Andrew

ANDREW ADONIS