



T : 0300 244 4000  
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Daniel Johnson MSP  
daniel.johnson.msp@parliament.scot

Our Reference: 202400444839  
Your Reference: DJ18478

7 January 2025

Dear Daniel,

Thank you for your email of 11 December 2024 on behalf of your constituent, regarding the active travel budget.

The Scottish Government is committed to investing in active travel to deliver an inclusive active nation and the vision that Scotland's communities are shaped around people, with walking, wheeling and cycling the most popular choice for shorter everyday journeys.

The £155 million of active travel budget already allocated for this year means that over £500 million will have been invested in Active Travel in the last four years. This investment has and will continue to transform communities and enable active travel journeys for people across Scotland.

We have much more we want to achieve. That's why in the Draft Budget for 2025-26 we will invest £188.7 million to support high quality active travel and bus infrastructure, sustainable travel integration, and behaviour change investment to promote walking, wheeling and cycling for everyday shorter journeys.

Work is underway to assess allocations for bus, active travel and other allocations which will inform individual budget lines for each constituent part of this funding going forward.

The amount set out in the draft Budget remains a significant commitment particularly when there remains pressures on public finances, with Active Travel, like many other policy areas in government, having a responsibility to contribute towards the path to a balanced budget.

We know that multi-year funding is of great interest to our partners. However we are unable to offer this as the Scottish Budget is agreed on an annual basis. This means that no awards of multi-year funding are possible as there is no guarantee of future funding.

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)



The rationale for investment in road infrastructure projects is not based on facilitating increases in road traffic. Our National Transport Strategy is clear that we will not build infrastructure to cater for forecast unconstrained increases in traffic volumes. The second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) provides an overview of transport investment, mainly infrastructure and other behavioural change recommendations, that are required to deliver the National Transport Strategy priorities and objectives of the Review. A sustainable investment hierarchy is embedded in the second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2), which will inform future transport investment plans.

I would again like to assure your constituent that we remain committed to our active travel vision, and I hope that the 2025-26 draft Budget is seen a positive step towards achieving this.

Yours sincerely



**FIONA HYSLOP**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Transport**

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St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1  
3DG  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)



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