



Department for  
**Transport**

From Mike Penning MP, Parliamentary  
Under Secretary of State

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Jonathan Djanogly MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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*Dear Jonathan*

**A14 Ellington – Fen Ditton**

As Roads Minister, I am writing to you to inform you of the outcome of the spending review, and specifically how it affects the A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton.

I am sorry to say that we do not think we will be able to fund the A14 Ellington – Fen Ditton scheme at any point in the foreseeable future. The previous roads programme was based on a rapid acceleration of roads spending, which we do not believe can be accommodated within the spending review settlement. The A14 scheme, priced at more than £1bn, would have absorbed over 80% of the available budget. I do not believe the scheme is affordable in its current form.

I know that this is not the news that you or many of your constituents will have been wanting to hear, but I would prefer to be clear about where we stand, even if it is not a comfortable position, and bring certainty to all those potentially affected by the scheme.

I am ordering a study that will identify cost effective and practical proposals which bring benefits and relieve congestion - looking across modes to ensure we develop sustainable proposals. This approach will also provide an opportunity for the private sector to play its part in developing schemes to tackle existing problems in the corridor.

*Kind Regards*  
*MP*

**MIKE PENNING**