

Your ref: BR14938/AP
Our ref: AR/SD
Ask for: Councillor Alan Rhodes
Tel: 0115 9772941
Email: cllr.alan.rhodes@nottscc.gov.uk
Web: nottinghamshire.gov.uk
Date: 17th March 2014



County Councillor Alan Rhodes
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP

Anna Soubry MP
Member of Parliament for Broxtowe
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Anna

Re: NET Phase Two Tramworks: Financial Assistance Package

Thank you for your letter dated the 13th March 2014.

Whilst the County Council recognises the huge social, economic and environmental benefits the tram brings to the areas of Nottinghamshire it serves and the City of Nottingham, I am also very mindful of the temporary impact of the construction works on those that live, work and travel through the area. For that reason I have asked officers to urgently prepare a report for Transport and Highways Committee to consider on 20th March a proposal to double the level of funding the County Council will contribute to the hardship fund supporting the Financial Assistance Package which itself continues to operate.

This prompt action will maintain and increase the level of support the County Council is providing to traders in this area which I am very conscious is not something the County Council can provide for many other equally important services across the County given the current financial constraints. I am also of the view that those directly causing the prolonged impact of the works should contribute to the assistance of those adversely affected by the works. For these reasons I am calling on Tramlink and their contractors to consider how they can help financially assist businesses adversely affected by the additional time now taking to complete works, particularly in Beeston and Chilwell.

I have also asked that officers of the County and City Councils work together to consider how we could both support fair and equitable access to funding, along the lines of the current Financial Assistance Package, should additional funding be made available.

Yours sincerely

COUNCILLOR ALAN RHODES
Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council