

From: Peter Silverman
Date: Thursday, 19 November 2020 at 15:11
To: Bernadette Kelly - Permanent Secretary DfT
Cc: Baroness Maggie Jones of Whitchurch, Baroness Jenny Randerson <
Subject: Concerns about RIS2 funding

For the attention of Bernadette Kelly
Permanent Secretary at the Department for Transport

I am writing to express my concerns about the paucity of information in the second Road Investment Strategy 2020 -2025, [RIS2](#), with regard to the funding of Highways England as expressed on page 119 as follows:

RIS2 Statement of Funds Available

Funding is outlined from 2020-25, a period known for financial purposes as RP2. This covers the totality of funding government expects to give Highways England in order to deliver the objectives of RIS2.

Item (£000's)		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	RP2 Total
Operations, maintenance renewals and business costs	Resource	1,201	1,160	1,199	1,221	1,293	6,074
	Capital	1,098	1,145	1,113	1,276	1,193	5,825
Capital enhancements		2,475	3,076	2,980	2,885	2,702	14,118
Designated funds		159	169	174	184	184	870
Preparing for RIS3		39	59	107	142	124	472
RIS2 Total		4,973	5,609	5,572	5,708	5,496	27,358

The total funding that Highways England will receive during RP2 to deliver the outputs and outcomes listed in this document will be £27.4 billion – greater than the expectation of £25.3 billion set out in the Draft RIS.

["Item £000's" should have read "Item £000,000s"]

Surprisingly no further breakdown of these figures were provided.

When I asked your department for a breakdown I was told that the DfT did not hold this information [[05/05/20](#), [07/10/20](#) & [05/10/20](#)].

The [draft RIS2](#) published in October 2018 simply gave a single figure of £25.3 billion for the financial resources to be made available. The [final RIS2](#) was then laid before Parliament on 11th March 2020, just 20 days before it went live.

How could stakeholders, taxpayers and Members of Parliament have expressed their views on the way in which such an enormous amount of money was being spent when presented with such a paucity of information in such an untimely manner?

How could your own Department have approved the expenditure of the funds with no breakdown of these figures to hand?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

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