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A1 IN NORTHUMBERLAND AND OTHER ROAD SCHEMES

I write to say how pleased I am following last week's speech by the Prime Minister, where Mr Sunak pledged to provide funding to dual the A1 between Morpeth and Ellingham as well as a share of a £460 million 'pot' to deliver smaller road schemes, including the Blyth Relief Road.

As you know, I have long campaigned for the A1 dualling, including in my recent letter to Richard Holden just last month. In that letter, I expressed my deep disappointment at the A1 decision being pushed back. So, I'm delighted now your Department has decided to 'unlock' A1 dualling as well as other smaller schemes.

This decision is hugely significant for Northumberland as it helps us invest in infrastructure fit for the 21st Century. It will grow our economy and make our roads safer. And it underlines Government's commitment to 'levelling up' our region.

Ahead of receiving more detail on the timing and funding, I want to say thank you for listening to our reasoned case on the A1 and other road schemes.

I look forward to your reply and, as ever, would be delighted to welcome you to Northumberland so you can see for yourself what we are delivering with Government support.





