



Department for Transport

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From the Parliamentary
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Dear Helen,

Thank you for your email of 9 December, enclosing correspondence from Kathryn Lloyd CPFA, the Clerk and RFO of Oswestry Rural Parish Council about speed reduction costs.

The responsibility for making decisions about the roads in Oswestry Rural Parish rests with Shropshire Council as the highway authority, which has the power to set local speed limits together with the associated signage and other works necessary, while speed enforcement is for the police.

The Department is providing £170 million in 22/23 to local highways authorities in England, outside London and City Region areas, through the Integrated Transport Block. This includes £1.6 million a year for Shropshire for small scale transport schemes, including road safety measures. The Integrated Transport Block is not ring-fenced, allowing authorities to spend their allocations according to their own priorities.

It is for each authority to decide how it allocates its resources and which transport improvement projects to support. The Department does not intervene in the local decision-making process because local authorities are best placed to understand the local needs and considerations.

The issue Ms Lloyd raises is entirely a local matter and I am afraid that it is not something in which the Department for Transport can become involved. I suggest that she considers continuing to raise the parish's concerns with Shropshire County Council; she may also wish to ask the County Councillor if they would be able to pursue this matter on the parish's behalf.

Best wishes,

RICHARD HOLDEN MP
MINISTER FOR ROADS AND LOCAL TRANSPORT