



Press Release

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CECA: Transport Investment In North & Midlands A ‘Vital’ Intervention To Boost Growth

Civils contractors today welcomed the Chancellor’s expected announcement of more than £15 billion in local transport infrastructure across the North and Midlands as a ‘vital’ intervention to boost growth and rebalance the UK economy.

The package - which is expected to include major funding for transport schemes in regions such as Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, the West Midlands, South Yorkshire, the East Midlands and the West of England - will represent one of the most significant boosts to local growth in England in a generation.

Commenting, Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) chief executive Alasdair Reisner said: “This announcement is a clear signal that the UK Government recognises the key role infrastructure plays in driving inclusive economic growth and providing opportunity for communities that have for too long been left behind.

“CECA members are primed to deliver on the Government’s ambitions. While full details of this investment are likely to become clear only after this month’s Spending Review, by investing in shovel-ready local transport projects the Chancellor will not only improve connectivity and quality of life for millions, but will support skilled jobs and a strengthened construction supply chain.

“The focus on redressing the historic imbalance in infrastructure investment - through a revision of Treasury rules and a commitment to giving every region a fair hearing - is long overdue, is strongly welcomed by CECA and our members - and is something we have called for for many years.

“We urge the Government to work swiftly and collaboratively with regional leaders and the construction industry to bring projects forward to market as swiftly as possible.

“The sooner work begins, the sooner communities and businesses will feel the benefits of modern, efficient and sustainable transport links, and the economy can gain from the multiplier effect infrastructure investment brings through job creation, economic growth, and improved opportunities for all.”

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Notes to Editors

1. The Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) represents over 300 contractors of all sizes, covering approximately 80% of the civil engineering market in Great Britain. Our members build infrastructure that provides the basis for economic sustainability and quality of life in communities across the country.

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