



15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Cllr Nicholas Rushton CC  
Leader of the Council  
Leicestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Glenfield  
Leicester. LE3 8RJ

Dear Nick,

Once again, 6 Leaders from Leicestershire District Councils are compelled to write to you to express their collective frustration at the County Council's failure to meet and accept its obligations to deliver highways and education infrastructure within one of our districts.

Instead of taking responsibility, as the highways authority, for failing to secure the Housing Infrastructure Fund that you bid for, you are seeking to transfer blame to a borough council that has a budget 100 times smaller than your own. This is completely unacceptable and whilst it may be Melton today, it will be the other districts in time and we stand united in saying this is unacceptable and no way to secure the infrastructure needed. Furthermore, your approach is doing serious damage to Leicestershire's reputation and potentially our ability to secure funding in the future.

We know funding infrastructure is difficult and expensive. We know there are significant financial risks and a lot is at stake. That is why we have repeatedly called on you to work with the districts in a collaborative way. It is not appropriate or reasonable to expect districts to pick up the bill for things you are legally responsible for. Nor can you expect us to enter into unreasonable agreements that are potentially unlawful, as the approach advocated in the proposed Infrastructure Policy could well be.

As local planning authorities we are delivering time and again for our communities. It is now up to the County Council to accept its own responsibilities and find ways to deliver the required infrastructure.


Yours sincerely,



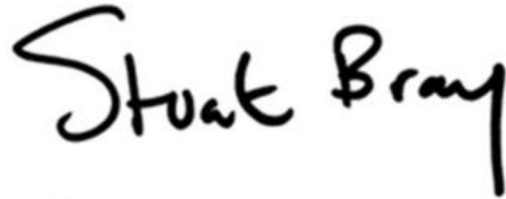
Cllr Terry Richardson  
Leader, Blaby District Council



Cllr Jonathan Morgan  
Leader, Charnwood Borough Council



Cllr Phil King  
Leader, Harborough District Council



Cllr Stuart Bray  
Leader, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council



Cllr Joe Orson  
Leader, Melton Borough Council



Cllr John Boyce  
Leader, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council