

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP Secretary of State for Transport Department for Transport Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

Our Ref: LE7839 2 February 2022

Dear Grant

Re: Proposed National Rail Freight Interchange at Hinckley

I am writing on behalf of many constituents who have become most concerned about the prospect of a National Rail Freight Interchange being built close to the boundary of my constituency. I share these concerns.

I would be grateful for a meeting with you to discuss these concerns as it is hugely important to my residents and to me.

I am troubled be various aspects of the RFI proposal, most notably the effect on local road congestion and destruction of the national environment. Whilst I accept that the M69 runs near to the proposed Interchange site, I am concerned that the proposals seem to encourage large vehicle movements along unsuitable roads, as well as cause a detrimental effect to nearby Burbage Common; a much loved natural wildlife haven for local residents. In recent weeks, I have become aware of concerns about the consultation process, and these, and other factors, have led to a despondency amongst my electors that their views are not being considered and local amenities and daily life movements are under threat.

My constituents are seeking your intervention to halt these proposals. I would be grateful for your consideration about this issue, and an understanding about whether you can make such an intervention as demanded by my community. I would be grateful for an official meeting with you to talk through these issues. If your officials could contact my Westminster Staff to coordinate diaries with you, I would be most grateful. Email tim.sansom@parliament.uk. I look forward to your comments which I can pass on to my constituents.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Dr Luke Evans **Member of Parliament for Bosworth**