



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**Jacob Young MP**  
*Minister for Levelling Up*  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Email: [levellingupfund@levellingup.gov.uk](mailto:levellingupfund@levellingup.gov.uk)

Cllr Cathy Scott  
cathy.scott@kirklees.gov.uk

20 November 2023

Dear Cathy,

### **Levelling Up Fund: Round Three**

I am delighted to announce that **Kirklees Council** has been provisionally awarded up to **£47,917,122** for project **Penistone Line Rail Upgrade** as part of the third round of the Fund.

Listening to feedback from parliamentarians and local government, including in relation to the first two rounds of this fund, we decided not to run a new competition. Instead, we have drawn on the impressive pool of bids submitted at round two, which we were not able to fund earlier in the year but were assessed as high-quality and ready-to-deliver. I am pleased to say that this project was one such bid.

I appreciate the hard work that went into the original application, and I am very keen, as I am sure you are too, to get delivery and spend underway quickly.

Due to the time that has passed since your application was submitted, we will require a short project validation check to ensure the bid will still benefit from Government funding and remains a local priority. We will also ask you to confirm that the bid has not changed significantly, is still deliverable by March 2026, and still represents value for money. The provisional award of funding is for this specific project so the money cannot be used to support activity that is substantially different. However, we recognise that project adjustments may need to be made due to inflationary pressures and we will be asking you more about this, and considering whether any adjustments you wish to make are acceptable, as part of the onboarding process. Subject to our acceptance, we will then draw up the necessary documentation and confirm funding. If you received MP priority support for this bid, please engage your MP on this.

My officials will be in contact with your officers shortly to discuss the next steps in this process and answer any questions you may have.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support for the Levelling Up agenda and look forward to working closely with you over the coming months. Once again, congratulations.

Best wishes,

**JACOB YOUNG MP**  
*Minister for Levelling Up*