



Department  
for Transport

Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR  
Tel: 0300 330 3000

Web Site: [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

Our Ref: 329637  
Your Ref:

8 March 2021

John Smith

Sent Via email

Dear Mr Smith,

## **Network Rail income**

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 February 2021 to the Transport Secretary regarding Network Rail's income for the financial year 2020/2021. I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Minister.

Network Rail operates at arm's length from the Department for Transport with independence on day to day operational duties. This is important not only for efficiency but for maintaining the company's accountability. I have, however, spoken to Network Rail to seek clarification on this matter.

In your email you asked whether Network Rail have informed the Department for Transport that they have not received any income this year. Network Rail have not communicated this information to the Department for Transport as it is not true. The majority of Network Rail's income comes from Government grants and franchise payments. This is then supplemented from Network Rail's commercial estate. In the financial year 2020/2021 Network Rail's total income is projected to reach circa £9.3bn.

I hope this response addresses your concerns.

Yours sincerely  
Callum (Correspondence Manager)