

NEWS RELEASE
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Ref. 2007 Skills Review



DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT ANNOUNCES TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS FOR WEST BROMWICH

THE Department for Transport has announced that the proposals to improve the A41/A4031 junction in West Bromwich have received Programme Entry status and is eligible for some £22.5m funding through the Regional Funding Allocation.

Roger Phillips, Chair of the West Midland Regional Assembly's Transport Partnership said: "Last year the Region advised the DfT that the A41 proposal is a regional transport priority, so this announcement is very good news - it demonstrates that the Government does take our advice.

"West Bromwich is an important town in the Region - it is one of the four major centres in the Black Country. This proposal will not only improve access to the town but will support the on-going regeneration of the Black Country."

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Notes to editors:

1. The West Midlands Regional Assembly ('the Assembly') represents a wide range of democratic, social and economic interests throughout the West Midlands region.

2. The Assembly's membership consists of 100 nominated representatives, with 68 members representing the local authority, 16 representing the business sector and 16 representing other economic and social partners.
3. The Assembly provides a platform for organisations to consider matters of common concern including: regional planning, transport, economic prosperity, sustainability, culture and Europe. It also supports regional policy forums and task groups on social inclusion, faith, housing, life long learning/skills, health, rural and community safety/crime reduction.
4. The Assembly works in partnership with Advantage West Midlands (AWM) the regional development agency (RDA), the Government Office West Midlands (GOWM), Regional Action West Midlands (RAWM) the West Midlands Local Government Association (WMLGA) and other regional and local organisations from across the West Midlands region.
5. The Assembly is the Regional Planning Body, and is also responsible for scrutinising the operation of the region's RDA, Advantage West Midlands.
6. For further information, visit our website www.wmra.gov.uk