



Steve Hollis  
Chair  
Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP  
Baskerville House  
Centenary Square  
Birmingham B1 2ND

22 June 2017

Mr D Harris  
Transportation Policy Manager  
Lancaster Circus  
Birmingham

Dear Mr Harris,

The Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) are delighted to support the bid to the Department for Transport's National Productivity Investment Fund, which has been developed by Birmingham City Council.

The proposal will support local, regional and national connectivity and play a significant role locally in achieving the vision and objectives of GBSLEP's Strategic Economic Plan, in particular the delivery of smarter, more sustainable and inclusive growth.

A major focus for GBSLEP is sustainable and innovative transport. The measures included within the bid demonstrate how we can manage our transport networks more efficiently to provide additional capacity, enabling us to move away from more capital-intensive, traditional infrastructure projects.

We feel that the schemes' objectives align to our aspirations for the **Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy**. This will help ensure we continue to improve the connectivity of the region, delivering enhancements to the network which will put the region at the heart of the UK's economic future. This includes major improvements to public transport, such as on the A38 between Birmingham city centre and the University and Hospital campus.

GBSLEP also recognises the increasing importance of improving air quality. The scale of the task facing Birmingham and the West Midlands is immense. Last year we published our Low Carbon Transport & Mobility Strategy, which aims to support a move towards a lower carbon economy, delivering better air quality and a higher quality of life through more choice and greater efficiency. The proposal plays a key role in helping achieve these aims.

In conclusion, GBSLEP strongly supports funding these proposals through the National Productivity Investment Fund programme in order to remove barriers to economic growth and access to major employment opportunities in Birmingham.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steve Hollis'.

Steve Hollis  
Chair  
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP