



Andrew Cleaves
Board Member for Transport
Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP
c/o LEP Executive
Baskerville House, Ground Floor
Centenary Square
Birmingham, B1 2ND

Email: gbslep@birmingham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0121 303 4369
Fax: 0121 303 6379

Chris Tunstall
Director of Sustainability, Transportation and Partnerships
Birmingham City Council
1 Lancaster Circus
Queensway
Birmingham
B4 7DQ

18th April 2013

Dear Chris,

RE: CYCLE CITY AMBITION GRANT BID – BIRMINGHAM CYCLE REVOLUTION

I am writing to express Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Transport Board's full and strong endorsement of Birmingham's bid to the Cycle City Ambition Fund: Birmingham Cycle Revolution. We welcome Birmingham's efforts and the opportunity to revolutionise cycling in the heart of our Local Enterprise Partnership and the country.

Birmingham strives to be a world class city with a world class transport network and every Global city we look to for inspiration has cycling as a regular part of every day life, for transport, for exercise and for leisure. Cycling is as much a part of our ambition for a state of the art transport network as High Speed Rail.

The LEP Strategy for Growth is underpinned by three strategic 'pillars' and cycling is a key measure which cuts across all three:

Focus on business

The Birmingham Cycle Revolution will connect communities to key employment sites and other essential services as well as removing barriers to access job opportunities for people experiencing difficulties in transport by making cycling a more realistic travel choice. The cumulative effects of the infrastructure improvements and supporting measures are therefore expected to open job opportunities for people,

particularly in areas with high levels of worklessness. Businesses would also benefit from outcomes such as less road congestion.

Focus on people

For those who cycle (or walk) more as a result, there will be direct health benefits. However, all residents would benefit from outcomes such as improved environment, reduced road congestion and economic benefits. Infrastructure developed as part of the project (e.g. new paths and road crossings) is not exclusively for the use of cyclists or indeed participants in other elements of the project and will therefore benefit the wider community.

Focus on place

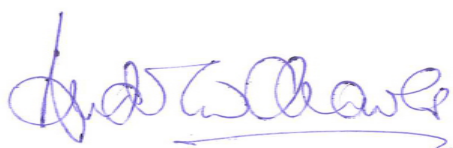
We have identified that effective connectivity – both physical and digital; and both within the city region and to national and international markets – is essential and it needs to be better. We must maximise the resources we have, and integrate investments being made in connectivity to drive the greatest economic impact for the city region as a whole. Cycling plays a key role in this, particularly at the local level.

Building a genuine network for cycling which is continuous, coherent and caters for cyclist of all abilities will provide benefits to Birmingham and beyond. Cross boundary work, together with initiatives at stations and with train operating companies will enable these benefits to be shared across the region and will cement the role of cycling as a part of a high quality integrated transport network, available for use by residents and visitors alike.

As well as providing enhanced connectivity, public realm improvements and improved environmental quality as a result of the reduction of the dominance of motor vehicles will create high quality public spaces with a real sense of place.

We very much look forward to seeing the delivery of the Birmingham Cycle Revolution.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Cleaves

Board Member for Transport, Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership



**Canal &
River Trust**

Keeping people, nature & history connected

22 April 2013

Richard Leonard
Transportation Policy Manager
Growth & Transportation
Sustainability, Transportation & Partnerships
Development Directorate
Birmingham City Council
1 Lancaster Circus Queensway
PO Box 14439
Birmingham
B4 7DQ

Our Ref
Your Ref

Dear Richard,

Birmingham Cycle Revolution and Cycle City Ambition Bid

Canal & River Trust are delighted to be given the opportunity to work with Birmingham City Council and other partners on the proposals for the Birmingham Cycle Revolution and the Cycle City Ambition Bid. We welcome Birmingham City Council's long term vision and commitment to increasing cycling within the City.

With investment, the extensive network of canals across Birmingham will provide a fantastic opportunity for sustainable travel across large parts of the City, both into and out of the City centre, but also to key sites such as Regeneration Zones, Universities, and Employment areas which are located alongside the canal. We see the canal as being a great alternative resource for cyclists who do not enjoy, or do not have the confidence to cycle on the road network.

Canal & River Trust, previously British Waterways, have a long term productive relationship with Birmingham City Council. This relationship has resulted in very many transport based canal improvement works being undertaken over many years to the benefit of local people and visitors to the City. This relationship, known as the Birmingham Canals Partnership, will provide an excellent basis for the delivery of the Cycle City Ambition Grant too.

Using our well established national framework contracts, and our in house project management teams, Canal & River Trust are in an excellent position to deliver the proposed canal improvements from the Cycle City Ambition Grant. As part of our contribution to the Cycle City Ambition works, we would like to offer the resources of two full time project managers and support from our Enterprise team, during the design and delivery phases of the works.

Canal & River Trust Peel's Wharf Lichfield Street Fazeley Tamworth B78 3QZ

T 0303 040 4040 E customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Canal & River Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 7807276 and registered charity number 1146792, registered office address First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes MK9 1BB

Canal & River Trust are committed to the future maintenance of improvements undertaken on our assets in accordance with our General Works Programme. The costs of future maintenance of towpath improvements and any works to our existing accesses shall be the responsibility of Canal & River Trust.

Canal & River Trust wish Birmingham City Council every success with the bid to the Department for Transport, and look forward to working with the City Council on the delivery of the Cycle Ambition Grant programme and its 20 year plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Harris', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Harris
Enterprise Manager – West Midlands