

Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority
11 Broad Street West
Sheffield, S1 2BQ

20th November 2018

Our Ref: MO/AG/0180/18

Dear Ian and signatories,

Many thanks for your letter and please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding. Thank you in particular for your advice on how we can take this work forward. It is much appreciated.

As I hope you know, I am hugely committed to supporting active travel through my Mayoralty. We have the opportunity to place active travel front and centre of our whole approach to our transport system.

In December I will be publishing a new vision for transport in the Sheffield City Region. Whilst this strategy will speak to a range of audiences and set out ambitions for road, rail, tram and tram-train networks it will also highlight the importance I am placing on active travel as part of an integrated public transport system. I believe this will be the first time that we have formally signalled our intent as a region to do this.

I am also committed to taking the best advice and developing an evidence-based active travel plan that is ambitious, deliverable and built on partnership. On that basis I have commissioned Professor Steve Haake of Sheffield Hallam University to undertake some initial work to build the evidence base to underpin my strategy.

I am expecting to see the initial results of this work very soon and hope to be able to share the outcome of that work widely with partners to help us develop the next stage of our plan.

I have also met with colleagues in Greater Manchester, in particular, Mayor Andy Burnham, Chris Boardman and British Cycling to learn from those places that are setting the benchmark for active travel investment.

I am also pleased to report that we have been successfully shortlisted for the next stage of the Transforming Cities Fund. I am working on a proposal which will enable us to put in place a plan for immediate investment in active travel schemes. This is being developed in advance of developing more detailed longer term proposals for the major element of the fund which is to be submitted in the early summer of 2019.

I have given considerable thought to the role of the Active Travel Commissioner. I am sure you can appreciate the importance of securing the right mix of skills and capabilities to help me drive this agenda forward. Whilst I am not in a position to update you on any appointment, I can assure you that my team and I are working hard to put this Commissioner role in place.

In the meantime I hope that this letter gives confidence that I am working hard to get this right. There is much for us to do and I hope that early in the new year I will be able to bring together all the key stakeholders and partners, including the signatories to your letter to discuss how we can deliver our joint active travel ambitions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan". Below the signature is a single, slightly curved horizontal line.

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE MP
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