

7th June 2018

Dear Sir,

TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

This letter is written in support of Suffolk County Council's bid to the Transforming Cities Fund to improve sustainable transport movements within the Greater Ipswich 'City Region' which covers Ipswich, Kesgrave, Martlesham, Woodbridge and Felixstowe.

Ipswich is one of the country's fastest growing urban areas and an hour from the heart of London's digital and financial powerhouse at Liverpool Street Station. The area concluded a successful City Deal with Government which focussed on improving skills levels and business support. Ipswich is also one of the priority places on the Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy.

The area is home to several global assets including the Port of Felixstowe, the largest container port in the country, Martlesham Heath in East Suffolk, home to BT's Global Research and Development HQ, and the Port of Ipswich, the UK's busiest grain export port. Ipswich also has a growing and significant cluster of highly skilled finance, insurance and legal services firms, including Willis Towers Watson and AXA.

The area is one of huge potential, with recent major investment in public realm, retail and leisure opportunities and a significant cultural and quality of life offer for its residents. As such we support their ambition for improving movements within the City Region to reduce commuter journey times, reduce congestion and increase productivity. Their bid identifies key commuter corridors and how capacity can be unlocked by improving sustainable transport to improve access to jobs while also improving the environment of the town through air quality improvements.

Improving sustainable transport in and around Ipswich will support economic growth and the delivery of our recently adopted Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy.

Yours faithfully,



Chris Starkie
Chief Executive

