

Pete Davis
West of England Partnership Office
Engine Shed
Station Approach
Temple Meads
Bristol BS1 6QH

LETTER BY EMAIL

13 February 2017

Dear Pete,

BROMLEY HEATH VIADUCT ADDITIONAL FUNDING

As you know, **North Bristol SusCom Ltd.** is a group of major employers, located in North Bristol, promoting **sustainable commuting** to our 40,000 employees, 30,000 students and visitors. We are working together to influence and improve local sustainable transport provision to **combat traffic congestion** and reduce the impact upon our environment.

We produced our first area wide travel plan in 2010 and in that plan we identified the need for safer cycle and pedestrian routes across the Bromley Heath viaduct. We supported South Gloucestershire Council in both their Maintenance Challenge Fund and Cycling Ambition Fund bids which will now deliver the improved pedestrian and cycle access and the much needed maintenance and repairs to the Bromley Heath viaduct in North Bristol.

We will be working with our members and other local businesses during the planned works to promote alternative modes of travel, avoidance of unnecessary travel and the introduction of more flexible working practices, where possible, for those who commute along this route.

Whilst we are fully supportive of the business case for these works to be undertaken, we are concerned about the duration of the works. We understand that South Gloucestershire Council has applied to the Local Enterprise Partnership for additional funding to enable the duration of the works to be significantly reduced from the current proposed 52 weeks down to

30 weeks or less. We are asking you to agree to this additional funding request to help minimise the impact these works will have on our members, their employees and the local community.

The A4174 ring road is one of the most congested commuter routes in Bristol. With significant amounts of new housing and employment space already being developed along the ring road, improvements to this vital route are welcomed. But our members regularly field complaints from staff about the seemingly endless sets of roadworks taking place along this corridor so any measures that can reduce the duration of these works is welcomed.

We have recently experienced 18 months of roadworks associated with the wider Challenge Fund improvement programme to the Ring Road and the works associated with building the infrastructure for the new Metrobus service. Whilst these have been inconvenient they have been manageable and nothing like the expected impacts of the Bromley Heath works.

Already it has been decided that part of the Metrobus Network will have to be delayed whilst these works are completed. The Metrobus network is a vital piece of public transport infrastructure, which will link up the Bristol & Bath Science Park and Lyde Green new housing areas with Parkway Station, the City Centre, the Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood, Aztec West employment area and the Filton Enterprise Area next to Airbus.

Any reduction to the proposed 52-week closure will help reduce the burden of the impact on our businesses, employees and the local residents. We therefore strongly urge you to make the necessary funding available to accelerate the works and enable us to continue to expand the strong economy in North Bristol.

Yours Sincerely



Ann O'Driscoll
Director

