Your name

Your address 1

Your address 2

Your email

Date

Prospective Councillor Name

Prospective Councillor Address

Dear XXXXXXXX,

**Building a better county - with cycling at its heart**

**Is this something you will support?**

[Optional personal story: “Jude and his family came to live in our house last year. He’s seven years old, bright, confident and cycles well. Looking at the Exeter Cycle Map he saw that his short route to school was along a cycle route. Naturally they were planning on cycling to school. A recce of the journey though revealed that the cycle route was along roads that were, frankly, hostile, to people walking and cycling, with the public highway clogged with parked cars. This isn’t the sort of city I wish to live in”].

I write to seek your support for building a better County, with cycling at its heart.

Devon faces significant challenges of pollution, congestion, unhealthy lifestyles and the degradation of the public realm. Enabling a significant shift to cycling offers a way of addressing these challenges.

I want to add my voice to several hundred citizens supporting the Exeter Cycling Campaign’s request that our County’s leaders take these challenges seriously and work to **plan, invest and build** a dense network of cycle paths. Experience both in the UK and Europe shows that with properly designed infrastructure cycling can become the natural choice for everyday journeys for people of all ages and abilities.

Businesses, schools and shops are putting their weight behind this vision. Over 180 businesses, including South West Water, the University of Exeter, The Met Office, Ashfords, Devon & Cornwall police, Devon County Council, John Lewis and Waitrose have all pledged support to the Exeter Cycling Charter. This Charter encourages our leaders to work towards delivering a vision where children and employees can cycle safely on convenient and connected cycle paths. The Department of Transport’s [research](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/509587/value-of-cycling.pdf) demonstrates how enabling cycling is good for business and supports a thriving economy.

Can I look to you to commit to working to plan a dense network of cycle paths that will help address the challenges we face?

I would be very happy to meet and discuss this in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Sender name

for and on behalf of

EXETER **CYCLING** CAMPAIGN

[www.exetercyclingcampaign.org.uk](http://www.exetercyclingcampaign.org.uk)