

Sender’s name

Address 1

Address 2

Date

Councillor candidate’s name

Address1

Address2

Dear XXXXXXX,

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

**Is this something you will support?**

[Optional personal story: “My commute to work is a real delight: people wave and say hello every morning, my journey time is always predictable, regardless of whether it’s rush hour and I never worry about where I park. Such are some of the benefits of cycle commuting. Regrettable many of my work colleagues don’t cycle. This is not because they don’t want to. It is because they perceive it as being unsafe to do so. Our roads are a hostile place for many - preventing the adoption of cycling, with all the benefits this can bring to individuals and the city”].

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.](http://exetercyclingcharter.org.uk/)  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?

You can see examples of what good cycling infrastructure looks like in this ‘[Guide for Decision Makers’](http://www.cyclinguk.org/sites/default/files/space_for_cycling_guide_for_decision_makers.pdf) from the national *Cycling UK* organisation.

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

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Sender

for and on behalf of

EXETER **CYCLING** CAMPAIGN

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