Councillor Steve Waight

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Chichester City Council The Council House North street Chichester PO19 1LQ

Dear Ms Tate,

Chichester Growth Programme – Chichester city centre (North and East Street) Public Realm Improvement Scheme Capital Delivery Contribution Request

I am writing to formally request funding of up to £400k from Chichester City Council to support the undertaking of a capital delivery scheme which seeks to address revitalising and enhancing the public realm within Chichester city centre.

The improvements will focus on redesigning and resurfacing the pedestrianised zones of East and North Street as a priority. As you may already be aware, previous studies have extensively documented the degradation of high street surfaces and the disjointed state of the public realm, underlining the mounting maintenance liabilities for the County Council to uphold standards. This, in turn, significantly impacts the town's ability to attract and retain visitors and businesses.

The funds will be utilised to deliver a phased programme of works, building on concept designs produced by consultants WSP, including installing the necessary underground ducting to accommodate any future fibre network to support economic growth in the city centre. Specifically, the City Council's contribution will support delivery of street furniture, wayfinding, bike racks, trees and other planting.

The total cost estimate for the capital delivery of the scheme at this early design stage is £6.82m. A partnership contribution will support a WSCC business case and demonstrate a collaborative approach for the future of the city centre.

I am looking forward to your favourable response and working together towards a prosperous future for Chichester's local economy.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Waight

Steve Waight Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Support Services West Sussex County Council