

Annex E

From: Durkin, Mike
Sent: 13 June 2006 13:06
To: 'Joanne McClure (E-mail)'
Cc: Pickles, Jonathan; Blair, Tom
Subject: New Station Access

Jo,

Thanks for your call earlier today. I really do appreciate the time and effort you are putting into this, and for keeping me informed as things progress.

It was obviously disappointing to hear that colleagues have some concerns over the establishment of a cycle parking area on the area of ballast off the end of the car park. However, I fully expected there to be such concerns - what we really need to understand is exactly what the problems are and are there practical ways of overcoming them. I therefore hope you can go back to the relevant people to discuss their concerns further. If you think it would help, my colleagues and I would be very happy to meet with you or any one else who could help us move things forward.

I also understand that there will be some stage a formal license process to go through, whereby we submit our proposed scheme to Network Rail. However, I am very keen to iron out as many potential problems as possible beforehand so we have the best possible chance of submitting a proposal that will be acceptable to all involved. As mentioned on the phone, meetings with GNER and BTP have already been very helpful in understanding their concerns and identifying practical ways of tackling them. Importantly, I feel they are happy to support the scheme in principle, and have shown a willingness to help us achieve a positive outcome.

I now desperately need to reach a similar position of in-principle support from Network Rail if there is to be any chance of delivering a scheme by next April. Hence I really appreciate your input, and would be very grateful if you could make enquiries within Network Rail to establish who would ultimately have the say over supporting the scheme or not. Who ever this is, I hope they may be persuaded of the significant benefits the scheme has to offer for rail-users and act as a catalyst to get the necessary resources put into making the scheme happen. Similarly, they could save us all a lot of wasted time by confirming that the scheme does not have in-principle support from Network Rail.

To help you approach others about this, I would be happy to provide you with whatever background information you think might help. As a starting point I enclose a report we recently took to the Council's Executive Member for Transport, which subsequently resulted in £250K being allocated for the scheme in our 06/07 Capital Programme (As mentioned on the phone, we are making a

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grant application to DfT for help with this scheme under their " Access for All" initiative). The report includes an Annex (E) which looks at the benefits of the scheme from a wider transport perspective. If you can think of anything else that would help please let me know.

This scheme funding does represent a very large amount in terms of our overall spending on cycling schemes, and because of the uncertainty of delivery we are making contingency plans for spending the money on other cycling projects. Therefore, at some point not too far down the line we will have to make a decision about abandoning the station access scheme to enable others to be progressed. Realistically, I think the progress we make over the next month will be crucial in this respect.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kindest Regards

Mike Durkin

Project Manager (Transport and Safety)



EMAP report -
Access to Statio...



Annex D.pdf



Annex B Scan.pdf



Annex C.pdf



Annex A.pdf