

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016

Cllr Philip Price  
Cabinet Member for Infrastructure  
Herefordshire Council  
Plough Lane  
Hereford  
HR4 0LE

Dear Councillor Price

**Hereford Bypass – Application for Funding for Local Major Scheme Outline Business Case Development Costs**

The Worcestershire LEP is pleased to support Herefordshire Council's application for funding to develop an Outline Business Case for the Hereford Bypass. In this context we note that Hereford currently suffers from levels of traffic congestion, air pollution and severance of communities including the business communities' access to markets and skills. This places a constraint upon the local economy and growth for the city, including the connectivity of the Skylon Park, Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas and to larger urban centres in Worcestershire and the wider West Midlands – in the context of Midlands Connect within the Midlands Engine.

Along with the improvements of the Southern Link Road of Worcester, which improves access to the West, the Hereford bypass is part of the solution to reduce current journey time delays and unreliability for longer distance traffic travelling to and from Worcestershire and through Herefordshire. On that basis we welcome the Hereford Bypass scheme and the improvements in journey times and the reliability it would bring, especially the benefits for economic growth.

Yours sincerely



**Gary Woodman**  
Executive Director