

Mr Mark Lynam
Director of Programme Commissioning
Sheffield City Region Executive Team
Sheffield City Region
11 Broad Street West
Sheffield
S1 2BQ

3 January 2019

Dear Mark

TRANSFORMING CITIES BID – LETTER OF SUPPORT

I am writing on behalf of Stagecoach Yorkshire to state our support and overall intent with regard to the Transforming Cities Bid being submitted by the Sheffield City Region and South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive. We are fully committed to working with our partners to deliver the intended outcomes and in particular to deliver a major and beneficial improvement in air quality in our Region's Air Quality Management Areas.

Stagecoach is partner in, and has been instrumental in the Four Bus Partnerships in place across South Yorkshire. We have strong working relationships with SYPTE, the four South Yorkshire Local Authorities and other bus operators and working together have generated bus patronage growth and delivered a wide range of initiatives including the biggest Better Bus Area scheme in the country.

It is essential that the Sheffield City Region grows economically and that quality of life is improved for the Region's people and without the development of high quality public transport corridors such outcomes will be difficult if not impossible to achieve. The South Yorkshire region has a much higher use of car as mode for travelling to work than many regions with a consequent detrimental effect on air quality. We must therefore ensure that a much greater use of public transport occurs and the Transforming Cities bid submission, should it be successful will be a facilitator for this.

Stagecoach firmly believes that buses are not the cause of the air quality problem but a solution to it and that the role of the bus in society needs to be maximised. Buses have a key role to play in our Region to prosper. Not only buses the main mode of travel for many people they have a vital role to play in reducing traffic congestion, something which is key in tackling the air quality problem. However we recognise that Stagecoach also has to a role to play in improving air quality within the Region through reducing the emissions of our own bus fleet.

We therefore welcome the opportunity to participate in this current application and commit to maintaining and monitoring the performance of buses retrofitted through the Transforming Cities bid.

Unit 4
Eldon Arcade
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 5JP

T 01226 346730
F 01226 346710

Stagecoachbus.com

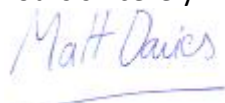
We will work with our partners to share this data with DfT to help inform future scheme development. With a fleet of 380 vehicles operating across the Sheffield City Region and within many other Air Quality Management Areas throughout the UK, Stagecoach Yorkshire is through its parent Stagecoach UK Bus able to commit that retrofitted buses will remain in service for a minimum period of 5 years or 150,000 miles, whichever is the earliest.

We have successfully participated in previous funding schemes to secure cleaner buses and were one of the early adopters of hybrid and micro-hybrid buses through the Green Bus Fund and in late 2018 commenced the retrofitting of 30 single deck buses in Sheffield following a successful Clean Bus Technology Fund bid in conjunction with Sheffield City Council and SYPTE.

Stagecoach is confident that we have a sufficient number of vehicles suitable for retrofitting, which if treated, would contribute to the aims and aspirations of the Clean Air Zones in Sheffield and Rotherham. We are confident that we have selected a proven technology that offers the best value for money and the highest reduction in NOx emissions. We are equally confident that within Stagecoach Yorkshire with a dedicated Project Manager and considerable support team that we have the sufficient resources and skills to meet the delivery requirements of this bid, both through successful deployment and management of the SCRT technology and through ensuring the appropriate and timely reporting of required data.

We look forward to hearing about the outcome of this exciting bid.

Yours sincerely



MATT DAVIES
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Stagecoach Yorkshire