

Cllr. Steve Dechan  
Stroud Town Council  
Thanet House  
London Road  
Stroud

**27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018**

**Ref – Stroud Railway Station – ‘Access for All’ bid.**

Dear Steve

Please accept this letter as our formal support for your bid for funds from the Department for Transport’s ‘Access for All’ scheme to improve accessibility to Stroud Railway Station.

GFirst LEP is fully committed to ensuring that economic growth is inclusive across Gloucestershire both in terms of geography and in respect of those communities which are currently disadvantaged.

Access to public transport is an essential component to an active life for those with disabilities and we support any initiatives that will extend this access to the wider community.

It is also the case that as our society ages, more and more of us will be living with restricted mobility or a form of disability and so ease of access to the public transport network will become an increasingly important consideration for an increasing proportion of the population.

Improved accessibility will also be important if those currently disadvantaged groups are to be able to exploit the improvements in both frequency and speed of the rail service to and from London via Stroud as a result of electrification and the introduction of the new Intercity Express trains on the network.

On that basis we fully support the bid and hope your application is successful.

Yours sincerely



David Owen  
CEO, GFirst LEP CIC