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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**This matter is being dealt with by:**

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**THE COUNCIL DOES NOT ACCEPT SERVICE OF  
DOCUMENTS BY E-MAIL**

Our reference: CB/SR

Your reference:

14<sup>th</sup> October 2019,

Dear Angie,

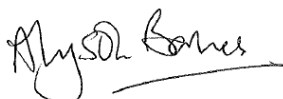
### **LETTER OF SUPPORT: LOCAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CHALLENGE FUND FOR THE REPAIR OF RETAINING WALLS IN LANCASHIRE.**

As Leader of Rossendale Borough Council, I am writing to express my full support for the County Council's bid for funding from the Local Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund for the repair of retaining walls in Lancashire.

Much of the transport infrastructure in Rossendale, as in other parts of Pennine Lancashire, dates from the Industrial Revolution and the Victorian era. Planned growth in the borough will necessitate new infrastructure however it is crucial that significant investment is also made in ensuring that the centuries old structures that support our key transport corridors are safe and fit for purpose.

The valley nature of the borough and the high degree of urbanisation along its main roads means that there is limited scope for widening or other improvements in capacity on the existing highway network. There will therefore continue to be a heavy reliance on a few, historic transport corridors and critically the stone retaining walls that support them - it is imperative that Rossendale continues to profit from its accessibility to Greater Manchester and the other parts of Lancashire and investment in these retaining walls will help to secure that benefit.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Alyson Barnes,  
Leader of the Council.

*"Rossendale will have strong communities with an enhanced environment and heritage.  
It will be an attractive place to live where tourists visit and employers invest."*