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From the Permanent Secretary **Dr Julie Harrison**

Eilish McGoldrick **Democratic Services Officer** Belfast City Council

mcgoldricke@belfastcity.gov.uk

Room 701 Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street **BELFAST** BT2 8GB

Telephone: (028) 9054 1175

Fmail: Julie.Harrison@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

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Dear Ms McGoldrick,

BELFAST CYCLE NETWORK - BUDGET ALLOCATION

Thank you for your letter of 18 January 2023 on behalf of Council's City Growth and Regeneration Committee enquiring how much funding has been allocated for delivery of the Belfast Cycle Network this financial year. Apologies for my slow reply.

While the initial allocation for schemes identified in the Belfast Cycling Network Delivery Plan was £700k, actual spend is likely to be in the region of £490k as unfortunately progress on the delivery of a number of schemes has been slower than originally anticipated for a variety of reasons. The Department has had helpful discussions in recent months with Council colleagues on Transport Strategy and Active Travel in the context of the Climate Act and current operating environment. I am due to meet John Kyle and Sammy Douglas soon to discuss how we can work more effectively together on these issues.

I trust you will find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

JULIE HARRISON