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Submitted via email to: [Emma.Gee@reading.gov.uk](mailto:Emma.Gee@reading.gov.uk) and [Jason.Brock@reading.gov.uk](mailto:Jason.Brock@reading.gov.uk) (Leader of the Council)

Dear Emma,

**Reading Borough Council: Levelling Up Funding- Heart of Reading – Culture and Community at Minster Quarter submission**

Thank you for sharing the outline of the Council's proposals for the above submission. For the reasons outlined below, on behalf of the Chamber membership in Reading and Wokingham, we wish to provide our broad support for the proposals and wish the Council, and your partners, well with its submission.

Each year the Reading and Wokingham membership of the Chamber sets out the core local policy priorities this Chamber will support throughout. These are set out in our [local policy priority statement](#). Including:

- Initiatives that re-imagine Reading town centre, encourage appropriate levels of investment and active town centre management that will help secure their future vitality, vibrancy, and employment opportunities.
- Encourage proposals that can help secure the appropriate mix of development and the highest standard of urban design, planning, and infrastructure provision.
- Promoting initiatives that support a green recovery, and proposals that are helping to build a local economy centred around net-zero, sustainability principles and social purpose.

In addition, our annual [Business Manifesto](#) (2022) provides more strategic context for our support for the submission, including:

- Enabling communities to 'build back better' and invest in appropriate skills and services.
- Deliver resilient networks that will support the region's future sustainable economic growth and well-being.
- Initiatives that invest in the success of the region's sustainable economic growth and productivity.

We commend your submission proposals and look forward to a successful outcome.

Our kind regards,



**Paul Britton**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce**



**Marcus Johnson**  
**Local President**  
**Reading & Wokingham Chamber of Commerce**