

Westminster City Hall
64 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6QP

30 August 2023

Dear Councillor Adam Hug and Dan Labbad

The future of Regent Street

This letter is sent on behalf of the West End Streets Steering Group (WESt), which brings together business leaders and stakeholders to promote the delivery of high-quality public realm improvements in one of the UK's most important commercial, retail and tourist locations.

Regent Street is a world-renowned shopping area and tourist destination and we welcome the plans to develop a long term vision for this iconic street. It is vital that the area continues to evolve to address the challenges and opportunities arising from our changing economy, social trends and net zero ambitions, whilst helping to preserve the unique heritage of the area.

The collaboration between Westminster City Council and The Crown Estate is a great example of what can be achieved through public and private partnerships. The enhanced pedestrian space, cycle lanes and biodiversity of the area introduced by the temporary works has demonstrably improved the accessibility and general experience of Regent Street. Making Regent Street a better connected, less congested, greener and cleaner space for all is critical in ensuring that it remains an attractive destination for all.

Helping to improve the long-term accessibility and experience for those who live and work on Regent Street, along with those who visit, will deliver spillover benefits for all the businesses in the area from retail to the arts, food & drink, and creative industries – parts of the economy that are in line with the government's priority sectors. Investing in Regent Street will have positive effects beyond just London, helping to entice tourists to use the city as a gateway for the rest of the UK. We welcome the opportunity to engage with and support the development of this iconic destination and look forward seeing the project evolve and take shape in the future.

Sarah Bevan
Director, Planning & Development