

CYCLING TOWNS AND CITIES



Questions and Answers for Cycling Towns & Cities Bidders: Issued 6 March 2008

QUESTION	ANSWER
Procedural Issues	
Is it possible to send our bid via email by no later than 5pm on 31 st March, even if this means that the five hard copies arrive in the post a day or two later?	Cycling England will require 5 hard copies of your submission by the deadline.
Will the funding for the successful towns be provided as direct grant or approval to borrow?	It will be a direct grant, paid in arrears.
I have received correspondence from a consultant offering support in preparing our application. Are they the official contact and are they acting on your behalf?	The Cycling England LA Support Team does offer a limited amount of free assistance to LAs wishing to bid, by phone / email. Details are provided in the Information for Bidders. Any contact unsolicited contact from a consultant will be off their own initiative and not on behalf of Cycling England.
Who can apply?	
Where do CE see us positioned on the continuum of Cycling Town - Cycling City? Our population is below 500k.	Thanks for your enquiry. As noted in the Information for bidders the figures cited are indicative and the actual size of the city chosen will clearly depend on the range and quality of bids received. The indication given is that the city would be 500k or more, but that may have some flexibility.
Can a District take the lead, with the full support of the Highway Authority?	Yes, that is covered in para 2 A bid need not be made by the Highway Authority, but would have their active involvement.
If we submit a bid on a regional or sub-regional basis and were unsuccessful, could our application also be considered as an individual bid for Cycling Town?	What you are suggesting would require a separate bid by the local authority as well as the larger consortium bid. They would each then be assessed on their merits.
Could a consortium of market towns apply?	The Information for Bidders is deliberately broad in terms of who can apply and your suggestion of a consortium of Market Towns would fit within the scope of it, but you would need to make the case for the approach and make it clear exactly what areas it would cover (e.g. just the towns, towns and satellite villages, the whole area etc) and how it would contribute to Cycling England's aims and objectives.
Matched Funding	
What might qualify as matched funding?	Please see separate note on this.
Would a Cycling Town be expected to spend £5-10 per head in the first year?	The table on page 9 of the info for bidders gives the dates when towns might expect to start delivery. The funding should be taken to

	be pro rata for the amount of the year that is left.
Can I confirm that the matched funding figure per head is the same for the Cycling City as for a Cycling Town?	Yes
Pre-requisites and selection criteria	
We are looking to put a bid together but I'm worried that at present we are not doing National Standard cycle training but we are looking at rectifying this. Could you advise if not having National Standard yet will be detrimental to our cycle town bid?	Delivering Bikeability is certainly a central part of the Cycling Towns project. Not having delivered it in the past would not exclude you from applying but you would have to present a strong case that you can deliver it as part of the project.
Application Form Questions	
Section 1.2 Does this really mean what would be different about our 'local authority' or does it refer instead to our town?	The focus of this should relate to the area of the application, whether town, city or even subregion, although where it might impact a wider area than is bid for this could also be included.
Section 2.8 Please can you clarify what is meant by 'leadership opportunities'?	This is an opportunity to list key leadership input from the partner organisations - the earlier questions refer to leadership in the lead organisation. More detail of the partners and their level of support should be given in 2.9.
3.1 What targets do you have for cycling? By this do you mean LTP and LAA targets for the County generally?	It is up to applicants to judge what is most relevant.
We are a County authority. Do the following questions refer to the County generally or only initiatives carried out in the town we bid for? 3.2; 3.3; 5.3; 5.7; 7.1; 8.2	In each case it is up to applicants to judge what is most relevant. You might choose examples from elsewhere in the County to make your case if they are more relevant than those in the specific town. The bottom line is that bidders need to make a convincing case to Cycling England that they can deliver the sort of programme that is sought.