

Life Cycle of Leeds

If I was children's Mayor of Leeds I would help promote cycling for children. My manifesto is linked to the wish: Children and young people can make safe journeys around the city. I was inspired by Dame Sarah Storey and the fact she perceived and pursued her career even with a disabled hand. It made me realise I should pick up a bike, as it is very good exercise and a super way to get around.

Firstly, I would promote cycling in ways such as cycle paths to places like schools, leisure centres and the centre of Leeds so that children and young people can safely get to where they would like to be without causing pollution. To make this convenient I would also provide safe lock-up areas in schools, parks and the centre of Leeds.

If children did not have a bike they would be able to borrow a bike. Edinburgh, London and York all have Borrow-A-Bike stands where you can (as the name suggests) borrow a bike for under £5 per person with family discounts of £15 for four.

To raise some of the money for this project I would organise a sponsored cycle race for children and near each cycle lock up area would be posters with a sponsor like Asda or Barclays. Hopefully, the income from this project would mean we could pursue this idea and over the years we could build up a fantastic, safe cycle network in Leeds.

Furthermore, this would be a good idea because if we could raise the money it would inspire our children and also help to remove pollution in our environment, resulting in the reduction of some illness and creating a fitter, happier and healthier city.

With the Tour de France starting in Leeds in 2014 the scheme would be a great opportunity to support both international and local cyclists and will encourage the children of Leeds to pedal to success!

By Charlotte Williams