

14 March 2007

To Whom It May Concern

Mountain biking is presently one of the fastest growing sports within Scotland, and there is increasing demand for suitable recreational trails to be provided across the country.

One of the most important trails to be developed within the central belt of Scotland, recently has been the development of the Carron Valley recreation trails.

These trails are proving to be extremely popular and have attracted mountain bikers from across the country. The development of these trails it is also in keeping with the desire to increase tourism to the Carron Valley area, and there are number of other projects which are presently being developed or considered within this area in order to provide a wider range of visitor attractions.

It should also be kept in mind that Carron Valley is within easy reach of Scotland's biggest city, Glasgow, and it is important that we encourage more people to participate in recreational activity, particularly those from deprived communities in Glasgow. Having a good network of recreational trails in close proximity to Glasgow, will help in the promotion of mountain biking for these children and will increase their opportunity to participate in this particular sport.

The Carron Valley development group have been working hard in order to help develop further trails within the area, and I hope that you would be sympathetic to any application being submitted in order to seek financial support for the development of these mountain bike trails.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely

Michael Matheson MSP

SNP-Central Scotland

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP
Tel 01324 629271 Fax 01324 635576
Email-michael.matheson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk