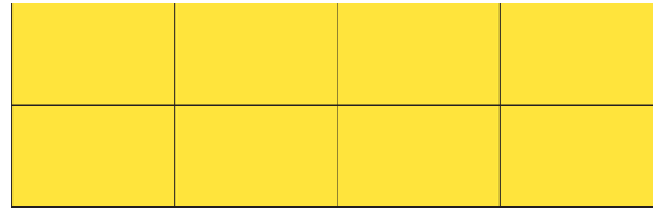




The Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AA



**Core Cities  
Express Networks  
1 George Leigh Street  
Manchester M4 5DL**

**0161 908 0443  
info@corecities.com**

*Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013*

Dear Prime Minister,

As the leaders of England's biggest city economies outside London, we share Government's ambition to grow the economy, and believe the Core Cities are critical to addressing the current imbalance.

Our wider urban areas already deliver 27% of the country's economic output and contain 16 million people. Even small gains in productivity in our cities will reap big national rewards. With independent forecasts showing the potential for us to deliver an additional £61 billion GVA and 1.3 million jobs above current expectations over the next two decades, in these tough economic times, it is vital that we better utilise the spare capacity of our Core Cities to boost national growth.

In order to drive forward the economic growth and rebalancing agenda we are launching a Cabinet of Core Cities which will enable us to deliver new policy solutions.

To maximise the economic potential of our regions, we have agreed to work more closely together, taking on portfolio responsibilities in key policy areas – economic growth, skills and labour market issues, transport, housing, investment, low carbon, public sector reform - building on, but going further than, the City deals process that we have all welcomed. Our offer to Government is to join with us in pursuing an ambitious programme of growth and reform, coordinating work across its own departments.

As you can see, the Core Cities are taking active ambitious strides to step up and deliver on growth programmes for our regional economies, but our activities will need to go hand in hand with increased dialogue and commitment from central Government.

To initiate this closer working relationship, we would like to invite you to come and meet with the Cabinet of Core Cities. We look forward to receiving your response and hope that together we can build a balanced UK economy that is firing on all cylinders to deliver the national growth that we need.

Yours sincerely,

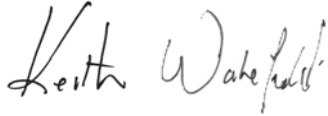
The Core Cities Cabinet Members



**Councillor Sir Albert Bore**  
Leader, Birmingham City Council



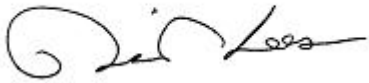
**Mayor George Ferguson**  
Mayor, Bristol City Council



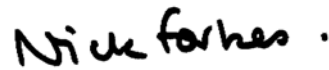
**Councillor Keith Wakefield**  
Leader, Leeds City Council



**Mayor Joe Anderson**  
Mayor, Liverpool City Council



**Councillor Sir Richard Leese**  
Leader, Manchester City Council



**Councillor Nick Forbes**  
Leader, Newcastle City Council



**Councillor Jon Collins**  
Leader, Nottingham City Council



**Councillor Julie Dore**  
Leader, Sheffield City Council