

Hi my name is Beinn.

I am nine years old and I have lived in Larkhall all my life. I love skateboarding and so do lots and lots of my friends – ~~its~~ ~~cool~~ I have come to speak to you tonight on behalf of myself and all the other children on the east side of Bath, which number over a thousand.

I would really like a skate park on the east side of Bath. At the moment the closest skatepark is in Victoria Park. My Mum and Dad will not let me go on my own because they say it is too far. There is no direct bus route. I really want a skatepark I can get to.

The facilities at Victoria Park are quite limited, there is not much space and nowhere for children who are learning. If you are a beginner and not one of the older boys it is not a good place to skateboard.

At our local park - Alice Park - we are not allowed to skateboard on the footpaths and the only other bit of tarmac is the cycle track, which is for children much younger than me who are learning to ride a bike.

I sometimes skateboard on pavements, but you are not really allowed to and its dangerous with people and cars. There is nowhere safe for me to practice skateboarding.

I like skateboarding because its stops me staying inside and watching TV or playing computer games and I get to be with my friends. I also know lots of teenagers^{wh} like skateboarding and want a skatepark because it gives them somewhere to go to be together and it's a sport they actually think is cool.

I want a skateboard park as I want somewhere to go where I can use my energy make my body strong and really test my skills as well as being with a group of other skateboarders.

Please help me to build a skate park for young people on the East of Bath.

Thank you.

I would like to give you copies of our ideas for a skate park and a letter from Dorset Police which supports the value of a skatepark for young people. These are with Councillor Sarah Bevan