I am delighted to be on the committee for the All Party Cycling Group's Inquiry into how we get Britain cycling.

We held our first evidence session on the 23rd January. There will be six altogether with a panel of MPs and Peers who will take verbal evidence from experts and enthusiasts. The last session will be on the 6th March.

The inquiry will examine the barriers which are preventing more people from cycling in the UK. Cycling makes up 2% of all journeys in the UK, compared with 27% in the Netherlands and 18% in Denmark. Some European towns support more than 50% of all journeys to be made by bike.

Our first session examined the aspirations for cycling in the UK. The Inquiry “which is backed by the major cycling organisations and the Times campaign “will seek the views and experiences of organisations and individuals on how the government can help get more people cycling by making it safer and easier.

I was particularly keen that the Inquiry should not be too city focused and I'm delighted that barriers to rural cycling will be examined. Local cycling campaigner Matt Criddle has been invited to give evidence on the 13th February. He will be able to present the barriers that have been obstructing the Littlehempston cycle path campaign, which seeks to open the final link in National Cycling Network 2 allowing a safe route to run all the way from Kent to Cornwall. We should all be able to walk and cycle safely between Totnes and the villages to its north and that should be along a route that people will actually use, not via a detour that will deter users and prevent an increase in cycling to school or work.

You can follow the campaign on twitter via #getbritaincycling or online