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The OSGeo Conference Commitee

31 January 2012

<u>**Re. FOSS4G2013 Conference Bid**</u>

Dear Committee

On behalf of Surrey Heath Borough Council, I am pleased to support the UK Organising Committees bid to host the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference in Nottingham UK in 2013.

Surrey Heath BC has moved a great deal of it's GI infrastructure over to open source platforms over the last few years and during that time we have had the pleasure of working with and being supported by some of the best GI people in the business. Surrey Heath are also protagonists of open data and have been present at 3 international OpenStreetMap conferences and are also involved steering the OSM-GB project. We actively contribute data to the OSM project and have begun to consume it internally.

We see the FOSS4G conference as an ideal way for SHBC to contribute something back to the open source community from a local government perspective in support of the superb open source software that is now key to our GI infrastructure.

We look forward to actively participating in the FOSS4G Conference and encouraging the open source geospatial community to join us in Nottingham for FOSS4G 2013.

Yours sincerely

James Rutter
GIS Manager