

Question: PQ11.01&02

Cabinet – 3 November 2020

Re: Agenda item 11 – Emergency Active Travel Fund - Bristol Streetspace

Question submitted by: David Redgewell

Question 1

Whilst welcoming the government grant to the WECA mayoral transport authority and Bristol City Council, the provision of cycling and walking facilities in the old city Kings Street and especially the Bus gate on Bristol Bridge and the regeneration project around Castle Park, we would like to know how much account has been taken of the needs of Bus operators and passengers on the City Centre Lewins Mead to Stoke Croft cycle lanes scheme and what action Bristol City Council and WECA mayoral transport authority are taking to reduce the delays to Bus services terminating in Lewins Mead or Bristol bus station from North Somerset and south Bristol?

The scheme also delays cross city Bus service to Gloucester Road to North Bristol and Cribbs Causeway bus station including metro bus services.

Answer:

Maintaining efficient public transport is a priority and all schemes are reviewed for their effect on the bus network.

Following discussion with First Group about impact on their services, an amendment to the Lewins Mead scheme has been designed that will provide additional bus priority from Lewins Mead to the St James Barton roundabout. This has now been implemented and includes an improvement to bus priority over and above what was in place prior to the COVID lockdown as well as mitigating the impacts of the cycle scheme.

Question 2

With the provision of bus stops safety scheme of city centre to the following corridors bus stops A38 North and South A4018, A37, A4, A420, A431, A432 .and stops around the city centre.

What account has been taken of social distancing for passengers safely at these bus stops and is the city council or WECA mayoral transport authority going to bring in additional journeys makers or Covid 19 marshals to protect passengers safety as has been the case in other transport authority areas?

Answer:

Bus stops throughout the city centre carry appropriate messaging regarding social distancing guidelines.

In addition we are providing Covid 19 marshals to reinforce these messages and we have agreed with First Group that this will include working at bus stops and on the buses themselves.