

Overview & Scrutiny Management Board 2 February 2021 Public Forum



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Public Forum Statements

Statement 1: David Redgewell, South West Transport Network and Railfuture Severnside

Clean Air Zones update - public transport network and coach services.

Transport statement on clean air zones.

We welcome the introduction of clean air zone in Bristol city centre and the proposed charge by the city mayor and the charging zone. The air quality around the main Bristol and Weston University Hospital Trust is very poor around the Bristol Royal Infirmary and the Bristol Children's Hospital and Heart Centre which serve the whole south west region.

The Hospital Trust needs a green Travel plan.

But we must charge dirty vehicles entering the clean air zone in the Bristol city centre.

Bristol needs a sustainable city centre with walking, cycling and public transport and investment in housing and regeneration of Bristol Bridge castle park Bank buildings Temple Meads and Temple Quay. We need a liveable city centre and investment in Light rail transit system in the Bristol Bath city region with lines to East Bristol and Bath South Bristol and the Airport and a loop through Withywood, Hartcliffe, Hengrove Whitchurch, Brislington and Bristol Temple Meads and city centre; and a line to North Bristol via M32 to Bristol Parkway station via the Arena Cribbs Causeway bus station and to Emerson Green and Kingswood.

We are still concerned about the effects on tourism in the city region. At the Bristol Transport board concerns were raised about the possibility of changing tourist Coaches to the city centre and harbour as many tourists Coaches are not euro 6 .

This being the case with social distancing on coach service from Bond Street and the bus and coach station.

Flex bus also operates from Bristol Bond street to London Victoria coach station and some European services.

On bus services Stagecoach west Bristol second biggest bus operator has a large number of buses on service in Bristol Bath city region with none euro 6 engines on contract to the WECA mayoral transport authority which need upgrading with grants similar to First group west of England buses and Hct group buses.

A meeting was being arranged to talk to councillor Kye Dudd about these issues and the WECA mayoral transport authority; As stagecoach west has a brand new network of Bus services in North Bristol. So these issues still need addressing as does the issue of First Great Western railway replacement service operated for the Department for transport and Network rail by first group.

Whilst the law is to provide wheelchair accessible Coaches by December 2020; not all Coaches again are Euro 6 engines; So if there is a change on the coach industry and passengers fares or grant through the Department for Transport Covid 19 bus operators Grant's for schedule services .

The coach service issue needs addressing; tourism is worth 1.4 billion pounds to the city economy and 600,000 jobs there; protecting public transport and coach services is important.

We also noted the lack of progress on proper coach station facilities in Bristol; now an issue for WECA Mayoral Transport Authority as well as Bristol City Council.

These public transport network issues need to be addressed in conjunction with the CAZ in both Bristol and Bath city centres. As WECA is now the transport authority we hope that if Bristol is to charge then a smart card system could be used across the WECA Mayoral Transport Authority area. We do welcome a clean air zone and the closure of roads around Bristol Bridge and Bristol city centre to the private car; of course WECA must provide alternative public transport services; Such as show case Bus routes like service 2 2a First west of England bus service between Cribbs Causeway bus station Southmead hospital Henleaze Clifton Down station centre Broadmead Bristol Temple Meads Knowle and Stockwood. Improvements on the quality of Bus service between Bristol Bus and coach station, Bristol Temple Meads Brislington, Saltford Newbridge and Bath Spa bus and coach station x39; a number of key bus routes across the city region are to be improved. New park and ride and interchange at Yate near the Railway station with Y1 Express bus service to Bristol city centre. New Portway parkway Railway station on the Severn Beach, St Andrew Road Avonmouth, Portway Parkway station Shirehampton, Sea Mills, Clifton Down Redland, Montpellier, Stapleton Road Lawrence Hill, Bristol Temple Meads; And through service to St Anne Park new station, Keynsham, Saltford new station Oldfield Park Bath Spa Freshford Avoncliffe Bradford on Avon, Trowbridge Westbury Frome or Warminster; As part of metro west; The Bristol Temple Meads Bedminster Parson Street Ashton Gate new station Pill and Portishead; Bristol Temple Meads, Lawrence Hill Stapleton Road, Ashley Down, Filton Abbey Wood, Filton North Henbury; The extension to Avonmouth station. We also need electrification on the Railway network on the Great Western main line through Bristol and Bath city region.