

**Statement: PS16.01**

**Cabinet – 3 March 2022**

**Re: Agenda item 16 - Portway Park & Ride Car Park Expansion**

**Statement submitted by: Railfuture Severnside (David Redgewell)**

We welcome the improvements to the park and ride parking facilities with the new railway stations, extra parking facilities and cycle parking and of course parking and access to the new railway station and disabled parking and the funding from the YTL arena money of £562.500 which will be a bus link to begin with and one would hope will involve trains on the Henbury loop line to Henbury for Cribbs Causeway and Filton Arena station.

The site need charging points for electric cars and cycle lockers and parking like Yate park and ride.

Portway parkway is very important interchanges facilities for Greater Bristol and west of England area and also an important link in offering alternative public transport facilities for the Bristol city centre clean air zone. We need to clean up Bristol city centre clean air.

Now with the train services by first group Great Western railway and Network rail western route new station for Train services to Avonmouth, St Andrews Road and Severn Beach and Portway Parkway to Shirehampton, Sea Mills, Clifton Down station, Redland Montpelier, Stapleton Road, Lawrence Hill, Bristol Temple Meads station Bedminster, Parson Street, Nailsea and Backwell Yatton for Clevedon, Worle parkway Weston millon and Weston super Mare, cross city line.

A lot of these stations still need to be made fully accessible to wheelchair users. and even basic handrails are missing at Bristol Stapleton Road and Avonmouth Dock.

But future options include the Henbury loop line with works to the entrance the bus service should be able to connect by stagecoach west to St Andrews Road, Severn Beach and Cabot Park 12 and bus link Down the Portway to South Bristol, a very important issue for South Bristol and services 10 to Lawrence western, Westbury on Tym Southmead hospital bus station and Bristol UWE and Bristol Parkway Aztec West and Thornbury.

Bus services to Lawrence Weston, Blaise castle, Henbury and Cribbs Causeway bus station x5 bus to Portishead and Clevedon.

The Development of Portway Park and ride into a public transport interchange is to be welcomed. We see this first phase by Bristol city council and the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and Mayor Dan Norris working in partnership as very important.

We welcome the bid to the metro mayor of £92221600 which the mayor transport staff are supporting.

It is great to see Bristol City Council and the West of England mayoral combined Authority delivering this first new railway station in 95 years in the city and county of Bristol with Mayor Rees councillor Don Alexander and Transport executive and metro mayor Dan Norris. We need to make sure that the park and ride interchanges and new railway station are fully accessible to disabled passengers. We also need to address taxis access at Portway parkway ride station and improvements in passengers' entrance to the Portway.

The bus stops further along the Portway north of the park and ride site where the x5 bus to Portishead and Clevedon need bus shelters Realtime information displayed on the use of Portway parkway station and Park and ride site and bus service calling nearby. A proper marketing campaign is required by the West of England mayoral combined transport Authority First Group Great western railway and first west of England bus and stagecoach west buses especially as Portway park and ride bus service are funded by the Department for Transport £150 million bus service grant through enhanced quality partnership and west of England mayoral combined Transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvements plan.

We welcome this investment in the Bristol Bath city region transport network.

In relation to Home to School Transport and safe routes to schools, we welcome safe walking and cycling route to school and Green school travel plans with school buses and schools trains. Parents should not be driving children to school.

Please note we wish to see all school bus and coach services fully wheelchair accessible under PSVAR.

We welcome the work by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and Bristol city council and the schools.