



Executive Summary of Agenda Item No. 15

Report title: Portway Park and Ride Rail Station bid proposal

Wards affected: Citywide

Strategic Director: Barra Mac Ruairi

Report Author: Colin Rees

Recommendation for the Mayor's approval:

1. To seek approval for Bristol City Council to submit a bid to the Department for Transport's New Stations Fund 2 and to the Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund for £2.225m grant to fund the construction of a new rail station at the existing Portway Bus Park and Ride site.
2. To seek approval that, if granted, Bristol City Council should accept the Funds and subject to the approval of the Strategic Director of Place and the GRIP3 and GRIP4 reports enter into an agreement with Network Rail to undertake the detailed design and construction of the new rail station.

Key background / detail:

a. **Purpose of the report:** To seek approval that Bristol City Council submits a bid to the Department for Transport's New Stations Fund 2 and to the Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund for £2.225m for funding to construct a rail station at the existing Portway bus Park and Ride site.

b. Key details:

1. Bristol City Council's Strategic City Transport team is preparing two bids to enable the development of a rail station at the existing Portway Bus Park and Ride site: one to the Department for Transport's New Stations Fund 2 and another to the Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund. Bidding for both competitions simultaneously will increase the likelihood of the Council securing funding for development of the station.
2. Complementing the existing bus park and ride facility the addition of a rail station will:
 - Improve connectivity to both the BTQEZ and the Avonmouth Enterprise Zone
 - Provide alternative transport for car users travelling to the city centre
 - Provide a rail-based P&R service for the Bristol Arena
 - Reduce road congestion, airborne pollution, carbon emissions and car parking demand in inner Bristol – particularly at peak times.
 - Improve connectivity to stations in the north and inner Bristol – inc. regional rail services
 - Be capable of interfacing with existing/planned projects such as MetroWest phase 1.
3. Bristol City Council is bidding for £2.225M to complete the works and if successful in the bidding process will see detailed design work for the station undertaken in 2017/18 with construction from 2018-2019. The first trains would be expected to start serving the station in May 2019.

