

## Statement to Cabinet 13 July 2011

I entirely support the recommendations on transport in your paper to the Council, especially the recommendation to delete, from the current Package, the BRT, and its linked A4 Park and Ride. It is clear from other Council papers that neither scheme would be effective. And it is obvious, with the UK economy still in danger of recession, that neither of these grandiose and expensive schemes could expect to be funded by Government.

It is also obvious that there is no time before 9<sup>th</sup> September to put forward any alternative solutions in the detail required. If the Council had had the sense to prepare a fall-back position – a “Plan B” – instead of barging ahead with those two flawed and highly contentious schemes, you could have now put forward some alternatives. But better to have no alternative (until the next funding round), and an affordable bid this time round, than a hopeless bid which included the A4 P&R.

I therefore also support the work to be done on alternatives to it, including directing traffic towards the Lansdown P&R, which would both help reduce traffic in eastern Bath and also reduce car mileage.

Your paper, however, gives detailed arguments *against* deleting the A4 scheme, but it doesn't present arguments against deleting the BRT, nor does it present much argument in *favour* of deleting either. I therefore draw your attention to my written submission, where I have attempted to draft a properly balanced comment on deleting the A4 scheme; a similar exercise could be done on deleting the BRT scheme.

P Davis