

Question to the Communities, Transport and Environment PDS Panel  
11<sup>th</sup> January 2016

*(NOTE: The following question and response will be published on the Council's website as soon as possible after the meeting and linked to the published draft minutes of this meeting.)*

Question from Nicolette Boater

At 12.11.15 Council, this panel was charged with undertaking “an open and transparent public scrutiny, examining a wide range of integrated transport solutions for the East of Bath”. In the absence of any Terms of Reference for this work in its 11.1.16 agenda and a timetable for its discussion in the Panel's attached workplan, **please can you provide at least some clarification of the nature, scope, timing and purpose of this scrutiny and any opportunity for public participation.** In particular, can you clarify

- whether it will be focusing on both or one rather than the other of the *whether* and *where* parts of the decision to build a Park and Ride East of Bath;
- whether and how it interfaces with the work of the Local Development Framework Steering Group who were charged at 12.11.15 Council with reviewing “all the options for the location of an East of Bath Park & Ride *prior to Cabinet selecting a preferred site early next year*”;
- the timing, extent, depth and breadth of stakeholder participation envisaged in this scrutiny process.

As a Bath resident, I am a stakeholder in this decision with concerns about whether this is the best way of improving transport access into and out of Bath and if so, the impacts it will have on the broader environment of the City. As such, I have found the consultative process around this important decision disappointing – it feels like a decision is being made by experts behind doors closed to the public who will have to live with the outcomes for many years.

Answer from Chair of CTE Panel – Councillor John Bull

Following the Council meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015, where the Park & Ride to the East of Bath was discussed, the Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel, were nominated to undertake an open and transparent public scrutiny on examining a wide range of integrated transport solution for the East of Bath. The work of the Local Development Framework Working Party will be available for the Panel to assist it in its work. The Directly Elected Chair of this Panel along with officers are currently in discussions as to the preparations for this event, as soon as a date has been agreed this will be publicised externally.