

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Communities Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel's	
DECISION DATE:	25 th July 2016	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE
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TITLE:	Response to the recommendations from the Review of East of Bath Transport Solutions	
WARD:	Bath Wards and Bath Avon North	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 Cabinet Response Table		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Members will recall that on 22nd May they held a scrutiny day to examine a wide range of integrated transport solutions for the East of Bath. Your recommendations were considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 13th July. This report outlines Cabinet's response to these recommendations.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The panel note the responses to their recommendations as outlined below.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The work required to meet the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel is largely underway and covered by existing budgets and work commitments. In the event of further work being identified further approvals will be required from Cabinet and potentially further budget.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Sustainability, planning. Further consideration will be given once projects identified by this work have been fully evaluated.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Panel held an Inquiry Day on 22nd March 2016 to examine a wide range of integrated transport solutions for the East of Bath. This was following the full Council meeting in November 2015. The details of the day are now on the Council's web site on the following link, [Scrutiny day link](#), where the presentations offered by the wide range of individuals and organisations are available.

- 5.2 The Cabinet at its meeting on 4th May received a report from the Panel following this Scrutiny day with 6 recommendations. These were considered by the Cabinet in more detail at their meeting on 13th July. The responses set out below were presented at that meeting. Any additional comments or amendments made by the Cabinet will be reported verbally to the Panel.
- 5.3 Cabinet response to Panel Recommendations are set out below and summarised in the table attached as Appendix 1.
- 5.4 **Recommendation:** To support moves to increase the use of the Lansdown P&R together with a smaller site or sites east of Bath to provide sufficient spaces for current and future need recognising the concerns of the population around the Meadows proposals. The potential use of rail and river should be considered as well as low emission buses serving the P&R.
- 5.5 **Response:** The cabinet are still considering how to meet the need for a P&R to the east of the city and this will be discussed at a future meeting. Lansdown P&R will continue to have an important role, which may indeed need to be expanded in the future. The existing P&R service includes the use of low emission buses which we will seek to continue in the future. Both rail and river options have been considered. The cost of providing a rail option would be very high and also would lead to a delay of a number of years, due to considerable uncertainties about time-tabling and identifying the location of a rail station. As far as the river is concerned, this would not offer sufficient capacity to transport the numbers of expected passengers to the City. Speed restrictions and environmental concerns mean that this option may offer a tourist opportunity. Use of the river is not a serious contender for large number of passenger journeys.
- 5.6 **Recommendation:** To improve publicity and signage for the Lansdown site and the opening of discussions with South Gloucestershire Council on improvements to the access for this site so as to meet the needs of visitors approaching Bath from the A46.
- 5.7 **Response:** The Cabinet welcomes this recommendation and will be including it in the strategy going forward. Officers have been asked to review the current signage in association with the installation of new Variable Message Signs in the vicinity of the Cold Ashton Roundabout, one of the final elements of the Bath Transportation Package. In particular, the Council acknowledges that the need to make clear that the Lansdown site is the P&R for Bath. Preliminary discussions with South Gloucestershire Council have taken place concerning the improvement of the access to the Lansdown P&R from the A420.
- 5.8 **Recommendation:** To investigate the Nottingham City integrated transport strategy and in particular its Work Place Parking Levy scheme with the aim of raising revenue that might be used for, e.g. subsidising bus travel during periods of congestion, including travel by school students.
- 5.9 **Response:** The initial view of officers is that it is unlikely that a Work Place Parking Levy scheme would work in a city the size of Bath. However, there is value in reviewing this policy option and officers will provide Cabinet with a more detailed report at a future meeting.

- 5.10 **Recommendation:** To investigate a possible link road between the A46 and A36 while recognising the environmental impact.
- 5.11 **Response:** This work is underway and is being taken forward with Wiltshire Council and Highways England.
- 5.12 **Recommendation:** To encourage the incorporation into the Travel Plans of the RUH and other health facilities of measures to improve the access from the East of Bath.
- 5.13 **Response:** The cabinet supports this recommendation and will continue to discuss with the RUH what initiatives can be taken to reduce the impact of their traffic on the city. The RUH have expressed an interest in supporting a dedicated service from a new east of Bath P&R.
- 5.14 **Recommendation:** The panel request early sight of the conclusions of the LDF Steering Group review of possible P&R sites.
- 5.15 **Response:** The LDF report and background documents are now available on the Council's web site.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 The response will support the project to deliver a P&R east of Bath.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Cabinet member, Monitoring Officer, Section 151 Officer and the Strategic Director Place have been consulted on this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	