

## **Christine Boyd, Statement to Cabinet 19.10.2016**

Today you are considering strategic plans for the wider region that have been many months in development - you must of course approve them for consultation

There is after all a lot to commend in these documents with the promotion of cycling, walking and bus franchising in particular

But in doing so, you must not fall into the trap of thinking that these are finished plans that will be implemented in full – they are ‘draft’ plans subject to consultation and to change

So the fact that they talk about an east of Bath P&R being part of the solution to traffic, does not bind you to having an east of Bath P&R

Indeed, I must draw attention to a statement at the top of page 60 which really does need to be amended in the light of new evidence that the council has.

*‘Further park and ride sites, with a wider network of services, are expected to reduce congestion on main roads and in urban centres, particularly where there are problems with air quality’*

This is a general statement about P&R, but Bath is not Bristol

You now know that in Bath, there is no longer any expectation that P&R will reduce congestion on main roads or urban centres where there are problems with air quality.

I know that you would not wish to send the West of England Joint Spatial Plan out to consultation with such a misleading statement

I would therefore urge you to approve the documents for consultation subject to officers making a minor amendment to reflect this new reality.