

# **COUNCIL 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**

## **PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

### **List of registered public speakers**

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|----------------------|--|
| 1. Dr Ian Orpen      | Your Care Your Way                     |
| 2. Pam Richards      | Your Care Your Way                     |
| 3. Lesley Mansell    | Your Care Your Way                     |
| 4. Jake Bishop-Ponte | Your Care Your Way                     |
| 5. Jo Hargreaves     | Bath Community Academy & the community |
| 6. Sian James        | East of Bath Park & Ride               |
| 7. Christine Boyd    | East of Bath Park & Ride               |
| 8. Andrew Mercer     | East of Bath Park & Ride               |
| 9. Emma Adams        | East of Bath Park & Ride               |
| 10. Sally Harris     | Refugees                               |
| 11. Pat Mason        | 6/7 bus service                        |
| 12. Mike Parr        | 6/7 bus service                        |

- Councillor Lin Patterson has registered to make a statement on the 6/7 bus service. At the Chair's discretion, this will be taken immediately after the public statements on the same subject

### **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

<b>P 01</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Jay Risbridger</b>
As the preferred bidder for the care contract has not provided these services before to this council, it is very easy for them to offer assurances about the scope and benefits of their provisions which cannot be assessed against any previous performance. In order to know whether the new provider is giving value for money and delivering the care services that our residents need, there must be full transparency about the terms and performance of the contract once it is awarded. Can the council confirm that there will be no commercial		

confidentiality clauses in the contractual arrangements with the care provider and that the public and their council representatives, will be able to fully scrutinise the delivery of these services over the full period of the contract?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Vic Pritchard

As commissioners, the CCG and the Council have a legal responsibility to hold all of our contracted providers to account on behalf of the public, ensuring that services provide a high quality of care for users and deliver value for money for the tax payer. A number of existing mechanisms will continue to be used to assure the Council and CCG of the performance of services including Cabinet Member Briefings to Select Committee, reports to Select Committee, Health and Wellbeing Board and CCG Board, Finance and Performance Committee, Quality Committee as well as formal contract review meetings between Commissioners and Providers.

Virgin Care will be required to deliver a set of outcomes for the health and wellbeing of the local population and will publish their performance against these outcomes using an online dashboard which everyone will be able to see. They will also be subject to regular inspections by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) with the results made publically available online.

Virgin Care will be subject to the same public accountability as any other independent provider delivering publicly-funded services. Freedom of Information requests relating to the services provided by Virgin Care can be submitted to the CCG or the Council and these will be dealt with in line with our current FOI procedures.

**P 02**

**Question from:**

**Jay Risbridger**

For many observers Health and Care services in the UK are underfunded by about £30 billion or 10% of budgets and it is unlikely that changes in management or requiring junior doctors to work longer hours will fill this funding gap. In order to provide the first class care services our residents should receive, it may be necessary to increase the level of care funding over the lifetime of the proposed care contract. What provision has the council made to allow for an increase in the value of the contract, if it becomes clear that the services being provided are inadequate due to an under-estimate of the funds required to provide the services?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Vic Pritchard

Both the Council and CCG recognise the funding pressures on Health and Social Care and the growth for demand driven services is recognised and funded through the agreement of annual budgets and financial plans. A large proportion of the community services contract are block funded services that have fixed running costs, however we recognise that these costs may increase over time, where future growth pressures cannot be funded through contract efficiencies both the Council and CCG will work with the Prime Provider to understand the funding requirement and incorporate investment requests into future financial planning.

**P 03**

**Question from:**

**Sian James**

City centre car park provision - according to the visitbath website there are currently 3500

car park spaces in central Bath. Adding up the car parks listed, I make it long term 2854 (Charlotte st, Southgate, Avon st, Manvers st, cricket club, train stn) short term 876 (podium, sports centre, kings mead, broad st, cattle mkt, claverton st) total 3730 city centre car park spaces.

What is the current assumption regarding future numbers of city centre car parking spaces (post central development) for;

a) short term parking

b) long term parking?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Anthony Clarke

The assumption within the Getting Around Bath Transport Strategy was that the redevelopment of the off-street car parks within the Enterprise area will result in a reduction of over 300 space on those currently present, though the final number is subject to the Council's overall parking strategy, planning permissions and the need that no reduction takes place until alternatives are in place. The balance between short stay and long stay is managed through pricing control to discourage long stay commuting to maintain the vitality of the city centre economy. This will continue the Council's long standing policy of reducing parking within the city.

**P 04**

**Question from:**

Sian James

Why has the Odd Down P&R facility been removed from the bathcarparks.co.uk website (that shows the utilisation data)?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Anthony Clarke

The [bathcarparks.co.uk](http://bathcarparks.co.uk) website is externally hosted using data openly sourced from the Council and therefore Odd Down P&R figures should be showing. Thank you for bringing the issue of the missing data to our attention, it seems that the 3g router has failed and we are working with our IT Team and the system supplier to resolve the issue as soon as possible.

**P 05**

**Question from:**

Christine Boyd

The Bathampton Meadows Alliance has calculated that use of park and ride increases by around 30% during the Christmas Market period.

Does the council agree with this figure or if not, what impact does the council believe the Christmas Market period has on park and ride use?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Anthony Clarke

The average usage across all three park and ride sites during the Christmas Market period is approximately 85% capacity. However, on peak days and at peak times during the Christmas Market period usage of all of the sites is higher than this figure and can exceed capacity. Usage across the year averages at approximately 60% capacity, though again there are peaks at other points during the year when the Park & Rides are at or near

capacity, and this figure is since the recent expansions and is expected to continue to grow in the years ahead.

<b>P 06</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Christine Boyd
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Last February, the Bathampton Meadows Alliance suggested that the council find ways to manage seasonal demand rather than plan for more P&R spaces that remain unused the rest of the year. What seasonal plans are now in place to manage traffic entering the city during the Christmas Market period, specifically:

- How many extra trains or buses will be provided to meet this demand?
- Has the council secured overflow park and ride spaces for this period?

<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Anthony Clarke
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The Christmas market preparations for the Bath P&R include use of eight extra buses on Saturdays and six extra buses on Sundays, as well as the deployment of ticket sellers at the busiest sites. Train operators may increase capacity during the Christmas period. In addition to the overflow spaces at Odd Down P&R, this year we have reserved the car park at Lansdown North Playing Fields (nearly opposite Lansdown Park & Ride) as an overflow car park on the Saturdays of the Christmas market. This should provide an additional 140 spaces for visitors.