

Briefing note

Update Report for SusCom Meeting - 17th July 2014

Rapid Charging Points

Installation programme is progressing, with RCPs installed at Cribbs Causeway (The Mall), and the Bristol and Bath Science Park. Other sites are being developed for RCP installation during the remainder of this financial year, including further sites at Cribbs Causeway, Aztec West, and SGC leisure centres at Bradley Stoke and Longwell Green.

Cycling Ambition Fund

Construction work continues on the Hambrook Crossroads scheme, with the M32 J1 toucan crossing programmed for construction later in 2014/15.

Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF)

The Department for Transport has confirmed the award of £4 million in revenue funding for the West of England's LSTF programme for 2015/16.

The award secures £1 million in revenue funding for South Gloucestershire, which will support sustainable transport measures including the business engagement work being carried out under the current LSTF programme.

This will be matched with capital funding worth £3 million from the Local Growth Fund (see below).

Strategic Economic Plan (SEP)

The Government has also announced the funding being awarded from the Local Growth Fund to Local Enterprise Partnerships for the implementation of their Strategic Economic Plans. For the West of England, the award is worth £79 million in 2015/16.

Of this sum, £3 million is allocated to the Sustainable Transport Package, and the LEP has committed this as match funding for the successful LSTF bid.

Within South Gloucestershire, the capital funding (approximately £750,000) will be used to deliver further improvements to the walking and cycling network as well as interchange improvements at Bristol Parkway. First Great Western has made a commitment to provide match funding of £120,000 towards the Bristol Parkway scheme.

Cycle Forum

The next Cycle Forum meeting is being arranged for the week beginning 28th July - details will be circulated to Forum members shortly.

North Fringe to Hengrove Package (NFHP) Major Schemes

The planning application for the NFHP MetroBus scheme will be considered by the respective Development Control Committees at SGC and Bristol City Council over the next six weeks.

M5 Junctions 16 & 17 - Pinch Point Project

The proposals to improve these junctions are the subject of a live consultation. Proposals can be viewed at <https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti>. Comments can be submitted by 29th July.

These schemes are being funded through the Local Pinch Point Fund, and are primarily aimed at tackling traffic congestion. SGC is working closely with the Highways Agency, who are also proposing to improve the slip roads at these junctions.

The schemes will also improve crossings for pedestrians and cyclists.

The proposals are:

- M5 Junction 16 - widening of the M5 northbound off-slip and the A38 to provide additional lanes entering the roundabout, and of the northern part of the roundabout to provide an additional circulatory lane. The pedestrian and cycle crossing across the slip road will also be upgraded, and the footway / cycleway improved.
- M5 Junction 17 - widening of the exit from the roundabout to Merlin Road, and the entry to the roundabout from Highwood Lane, to create additional lanes. Alteration of lane markings and signs to make better use of the circulatory carriageway and approaches to the junction. Upgrade of traffic signals equipment including pedestrian and cycle crossings.

The schemes are to be completed by March 2015, and a start on site at Junction 16 could be as early as August.

A38 / A4174 Filton Roundabout

The design of this scheme is under review following the consultation.

MetroWest

Local Growth Funding has been allocated within the SEP for both phases of the MetroWest project (Phase 1 = Portishead Line; Phase 2 = Henbury Line). The respective project teams are progressing these schemes through the relevant Network Rail processes.

Composite Bridge

Local Growth Funding has also been allocated within the SEP for the Composite Bridge project, which will be looking at innovative solutions to constructing new bridges and is a partnership project with involvement from the National Composite Centre and various engineering consultants. Potential sites for the new bridge include Emersons Green, across the A4174 and linked to the Emersons Green East development, and at the Bromley Heath Bridge on the A4174, a bottleneck on the ring road cycle route. SGC is working with the project team to develop these proposals.

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