

SOUTH GLOS COUNCIL UPDATE FOR SUSCOM - JANUARY 2016

Go Ultra Low City Bid – Success

Announced on Monday 25 January, the Department for Transport (DfT) allocated £7M to the four West of England authorities to increase the uptake and use of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (electric cars). Press release from DfT: <http://ow.ly/XxiRK>

Our joint bid set out a strong business case for investment in our area – working in partnership with Business West and a commitment from 35 organisations within the sub-region to invest in 100 electric cars by 2020.

Although the spending profile will need to be confirmed, the ambition is for the funding to support:

- 5,000 new ULEVs in the sub region by 2020.
- Increase the number of charging points from 200 to 400.
- Increase the availability of demonstrator / trial vehicles.
- New car club vehicles.
- Conversion of 20% of council fleet to ULEVs.
- Subsequent improvements in local air quality and noise reduction.

Low Emission Bus Scheme Bid – pending outcome

A bid for the Low Emission Bus Scheme project was submitted to DfT on 30 October 2015. It would secure £30M investment in 110 gas-powered buses operating in and around North / East Bristol, including on MetroBus and local services within the North Fringe. The bid was submitted in partnership with First.

It is understood that Wessex / Geneco also submitted a bid for 20 gas-powered buses, some of which would operate on Bristol – UWE services.

A decision on the Low Emission Bus Services is expected March 2016.

Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study

West of England sub-region Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study closes on Friday 29 January 2016. Follow this link to learn more and to contribute: www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk

The last of the road shows has occurred, plus there was a business breakfast event for employers in the North Fringe on 20 January 2016, attendees included Suscom and 15 other business representatives.

There is now an admin task of collating the consultation responses to get a feel for emerging themes. The responses will feed into the work of the Joint Transport Study – which is working on preparing a reference case by end February 2016.

South Glos Council – Management of Residential Travel Plans

South Glos Council has secured developer funding to deliver Travel Plan measures at a range of new residential developments in Yate, Emerson's Green and Thornbury. This will result in a new post being created from April 2016 to deliver Residential Travel Plans - effectively continuing the 'Moving Homes' element of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

Our ambition is to expand the service further – with s106 agreements close to being signed at Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood. There are also a number of emerging sites at the pre-application stage.

Local Transport Capital Programme 2016/17

South Glos Council's PTSE Committee considered the Local Transport Capital Programme (our identified capital programme of highways improvements for the forthcoming year) at a meeting in Kingswood on 27 Jan. A full list of the highways works can be found at Agenda Item 14 of the following committee meeting: <http://ow.ly/XxHON>

Cycling Strategy

Thank you to SusCom and SusCom members for providing consultation responses on the Draft Cycling Strategy. The consultation ended on 15 January 2016.

The next steps are to consider the consultation responses and revise the documents accordingly. The aim is to take the strategy to the Council's PTSE Committee on 23 March 2016 for approval.

Other cycling updates

Yate Spur

A new link from the Westerleigh Road crossing point to Kidney Hill is being constructed at present, with completion expected in early February, to allow cyclists and pedestrians to cross Westerleigh Road safely.

Work to widen and re-surface 500m of cycle route along the Broad lane track section of the route was completed in November.

Re-surfacing of the 300m Broad Lane road section of the route will be undertaken during the February half-term, with an off-road link to connect Broad Lane to the new Westerleigh Road link planned for construction in early 2016/17.

A 200m section of shared use path along Westerleigh Road between Nibley Lane and the Shire Way viaduct will then be constructed during February 2016, ahead of the construction of a bridge structure to link this path through to Shire Way under the viaduct, which is planned for 2016/17.

Southmead Hospital walking and cycling routes

New signage on advisory walking and cycling routes to the Hospital completed in 2015. Further improvements to these route are in progress, including installation of dropped kerbs, upgrading the street lighting and implementing a 20mph speed limit.

Cycle Ambition Fund

Cycle route lighting schemes have now been completed and are operational at the following locations:

- Railway Path section from Mangotsfield Station to Emerson's Green
- Filton Road (Frenchay to the UWE campus).
- Bromley Heath section of the Ring Road path

Initial design work on the Hayes Way shared use path scheme, and Church Road scheme near Parkway is progressing well with consultations on both schemes due to commence in February, with construction planned for Summer 2016.

Initial design work on the Bromley Heath walking and cycling bridge scheme has commenced, with consultation for that planned in June 2016, followed by construction during Summer 2017.

Metrobus (North Fringe to Hengrove Package)

Construction work is progressing on a number of sections of the route, including Bradley Stoke Way, Stoke Gifford Transport Link, M32 Junction, Bristol City Centre and areas of South Bristol. Church Road bridge has been removed.

MetroBus Services on the North Fringe to Hengrove route will start in Autumn 2017.

For further information visit www.travelwest.info/MetroBus

Metrobus Extension (Bristol Parkway to Cribbs Causeway)

Consultation closed on 15 January 2016 and a number of comments have been received, including a response from Suscom - which we are grateful for. Officers are now in the process of analysing the public response. Once all responses are analysed, we will form a response to key issues and these will be published in a consultation report later in 2016.

The NHS Blood & Transplant and the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust have raised concerns regarding potential impacts on North Way which officers are currently examining. We will be in touch soon to discuss these issues further.

Updates will continue to be posted at www.travelwest.info/metrobus/extension when new information is available.

Rail - MetroWest Phase 2

Consultation on Henbury railway station ended on 25 January. The focus of the consultation was the location of the station (East or West of the A4018). The report on the findings of the consultation will be prepared for the Joint Transport Board in summer 2016.

More information at <http://travelwest.info/projects/metrowest>

Other Rail Issues

Network rail investment in West of England is delayed - although electrification will come to Bristol Parkway first with an indicative timescale for “bi-mode” trains operating at Parkway in 2018.

SGC working with GWR to provide new bus shelters and cycle improvements at Bristol Parkway – completion date unknown at this stage.

Public Transport

There are changes to the 12, 13, 14, 19 and 312 bus services from 5 January 2016. Plus changes to the X5, 88, 533 and 7 bus services from 11 January 2016. For full details of changes to public transport provision, visit <http://ow.ly/Xy6XC>.

SGC has published a new bus route map for South Gloucestershire. Copies can be ordered by e-mailing. The map can also be viewed on the SGC website – www.southglos.gov.uk.

M5 J16 & J17 ‘Pinch Point’ schemes

M5 J16 scheme – civils and kerbing works were completed in December 2015, however a safety barrier remains in place to enable on-going drainage works to be carried out. The drainage works are due to be completed by the end of February 2016, together with final surfacing and road markings.

M5 J17 scheme – the main construction works at the junction were completed in November 2015, however, road makings will be completed during February 2016. This work will be undertaken with overnight closures to minimise the impact on travel.

Aztec West Roundabout

The main works on the improvements to Aztec West roundabout are due to start in late spring/summer 2016, to co-ordinate with the MetroBus works on the northern section of Bradley Stoke Way in order to minimise disruption.

It is expected that the works will last approximately one year. A further update can be provided to Suscom a little closer to the start of works.

A38 Corridor schemes (Filton Roundabout & Gipsy Patch Lane)

A38 Northbound approach to Filton Roundabout – works completed in November 2015.

A4174 approach to Filton Roundabout – works will be completed following High Friction Surfacing (HFS) treatment on this approach to the roundabout, which will be carried out in May 2016 (HFS works are weather-dependent and can't be carried out prior to May). The whole Filton Roundabout circulatory is to be re-surfaced in March 2016 to address existing surface quality issues. The resurfacing work will be undertaken with overnight closures to minimise the impact on travel.

Gipsy Patch Lane – works are substantially complete, and will be finalised following completion of minor drainage-related works in February 2016. The drainage works will be completed off-carriageway and, as such, will not impact on travel.

A4174 Challenge Fund

In October 2015, resurfacing work was undertaken between the Deanery Road and Dramway Roundabouts on the A4174. This was undertaken with overnight closures to minimise the impact on travel.

Work is continuing on finalising the design, programme and traffic management for the improvements and enhancements to the A4174 carriageway, foot path and cycle ways between Hicks Gate roundabout and the junction with the A38 in Filton, with work due to commence early in the new financial year with completion in 2017/18.

Work is also continuing on assessing the strengthening and waterproofing works needed to the Avon Valley Bridge and Bromley Heath Viaduct and to infill the Filton Underpass. Work will be undertaken over the next two financial years.

A total of £15.5m will be spent on the programme.

A comprehensive communication plan is being developed to update and inform all stakeholders on the impending work programme and we continue to liaise closely with the Metrobus scheme to coordinate works and traffic management.

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