

Access West – update for July 2018 SusCom meeting

BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

There is currently just over £38,000 available for any project which promotes sustainable and active travel and/or reduces reliance on single occupancy vehicle trips. Please contact me directly for any enquiries relating to employer grants.

This year's travel challenge is still ongoing for one more week, if your organisation is taking part it is a chance for one final push! We are aware that uptake has been significantly lower than in previous years, we will be working through the lessons learned from this along with the provider. As part of this, contacts from organisations will be asked to complete a short survey as will individuals who have taken part this year to gain their views on certain aspects.

ACTIVE TRAVEL CHAMPIONS

There will be two leisure rides on the 20th of July and the 16th of August respectively, running jointly in partnership with the Bristol Cycle Champions network. These will be from Bristol to Bitton between 1pm and 4pm. For more details please contact Andrew.dimarco@southglos.gov.uk.

A very successful led walk took place around Aztec West earlier this month with a great turn out of participants, the walk was led by Steve England and all who took part learned some really interesting facts about the plants and wildlife in the vicinity. Look out for a write up in a future newsletter. Please contact Andrew Dimarco if you would like to find out more about organising a walk near your place of work.

GO ULTRA LOW WEST (GULW)

Fleet Electrification

SGC are due to convert a further two vehicles this year and we are on course to achieve overall milestones by March 2021.

Charge points: Business Rapid and Fast

Business Engagement team are re-engaging a number of businesses in July (Rolls Royce/Filton 20/Aztec West/Babcock/Edvance) to encourage employer grant uptake.

Charge points: Public

The market research activities have been completed and we are in the process of finalizing site selection within the next two months.

JSP UPDATE

The four West of England Local Authorities are developing a package of transport measures in support of the significant housing and employment growth set out in the 'West of England Joint Spatial Plan'. The work is being carried out in preparation for an Examination in Public for the Joint Spatial Plan. Timescales for the Examination in Public are still being decided, but it is likely to occur in late-2018 or in mid-2019.

The transport package relevant to the growth in South Glos area includes:

- A38 package
 - A38 MetroBus to Thornbury and the proposed garden village at Buckover
 - A38 Park & Ride site
 - M5 Junction 14 upgrade
 - Reopening of Charfield station

- A432 package
 - A432 MetroBus to Yate and Chipping Sodbury
 - A432 Park & Ride site
 - Winterbourne - Frampton Cotterell bypass and/or a Yate Link Road
 - Yate Station Improvements

It is likely we will be consulting on these schemes in Autumn 2018, combined with the Joint Local Transport Plan consultation (mid-Oct to late-Nov 2018). Members of the public, employers and other key stakeholders will be invited to comment and input on the schemes presented.

Further consultations related to new P&R sites on the M32 and A4018 corridors will occur at a later date, once these schemes have more detail.

LOCAL GROWTH FUND 17/18 – YATE SPUR

Phase 5 has suffered from issues relating to land ownership and significant construction challenges, therefore we are currently proposing an alternative revised Phase 6 Scheme, split into 2 phases: (1) Westerleigh Village improvements and (2) Shire Way improvements. Outline drawings have been compiled for the alternative scheme and outline cost estimates have been completed. A consultation process commenced in June and is due to complete at the end of July - <https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/YSLinktoCY/consultationHome>. The alternative schemes have a current programme end date of early March 2019.

Details of the proposed phase 6 schemes are as follows:

1) Westerleigh Village Improvements

This scheme involves:

- The provision of warning signs on Westerleigh Road (between Dodmore crossing and Besom Lane)
- The provision of cycle symbol markings along this length of the section.

2) Shire Way Improvements

This scheme involves:

- The removal of existing build-outs along Shire Way
- The provision of advisory cycle lanes with the centre line removed.

BHV UPDATE

Nothing further to add on the project, however a lessons learned session is planned for later this month which all SGC officers involved will have an opportunity to feed into.

CRIBBS PATCHWAY METROBUS EXTENSION

The following planning applications were submitted in February 2018:

- San Andreas roundabout PT18/0992/R3F
- North Way bus link PT18/0988/R3F
- Gipsy Patch Lane Railway bridge PT18/0986/F
- Gipsy Patch Lane highway works to east and west of the bridge & Hatchet Road PT18/0987/R3F

On Thursday 12 July the council's Development Control West Committee granted planning permission for the Gipsy Patch Lane railway bridge, the Gipsy Patch Lane highway works to east and west of the bridge and Hatchet Road, and the San Andreas bus link. The North Way bus link was not considered at the meeting and will be considered at a subsequent date yet to be confirmed.

Construction is planned to start in 2019 with completion in 2021. The CPME Project Team has commenced planning for engagement with the business community prior to construction starting so that the necessary highways works and closures cause the least amount of disruption possible.

M49 JUNCTION

Nothing available to report at time or writing, I will provide a further update ASAP.

CYCLING AND TRANSPORT POLICY UPDATES

LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan)

The early planning stages for a West of England wide plan has taken longer than expected, stakeholder workshops are now planned for late summer, more details will be provided in due course.

Cycle Forum

The next cycle forum meeting will be during week commencing 11th September 2018, please encourage your Cycle champions to attend. The venue is still to be decided, but if anyone can host the meeting for us please contact us by email cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk.

JLTP

A first draft has been circulated to Officers internally and Members are being briefed. There have also been two stakeholder workshops to gauge the views of specialists in the field. A second draft will be produced incorporating comments. Consultation has been pushed back to October to allow more time for comments which means that adoption will take place after the elections in May next year.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Bus Strategy

The Bus strategy work which will be a 'daughter document' of the JLTP is progressing well and meetings to outline the scope of the work have been held with executive members.

Consultants are now on board and will initially be working to map out the current Bus context in the West of England and benchmarking against successfully performing areas.

Metrowest (Rail)

MetroWest phase 1 whilst well received by Government was unsuccessful in an application seeking funding from the major schemes fund (MSF). Further opportunities are currently being explored by the project team.

MetroWest phase 2: work is continuing towards the next stage of Business planning which it is proposed will report in the Autumn this year.

Conditions are challenging for rail as GWR continues to deal with staff issues, vehicle maintenance and disruption caused by upgrades to signalling and electrification. Disruption across all of the stations in the WoE is ongoing and is likely to continue until Christmas. A franchise consultation has been launched by the DfT re the future cross country rail franchise. In the Autumn and summer periods there will be significant closures of stations and routes affecting all stations in the West of England.

MetroBus

We don't have specific passenger numbers for the m3 as yet – (they are regarded as commercially sensitive) but it has been a very positive start to the network. First trip had 2 people on it who had left their car at home.

iPoints are working well - most people are using the phone app – but everyone understands and can see that off bus ticketing speeds up the service by reducing holding at stops.

The Bristol Rider ticket is growing in popularity as is the First Day ticket on the Travelwest smartcard – so there is a slow but steady switch to everyone going smart.

We (First and councils) are aware of some morning peak hour services that are experiencing delays between Willy Wicket and Hambrook and are looking at how to overcome this – either the possibility of extending the hours of the 2+ plane, and /or policing of the lane.

Carrying out surveys at Lyde Green to find out what people did before metrobus

The new Thornbury service (T1) using the metrobus infrastructure has started to a positive reception.

m2 service is still set for an (early!) autumn start – we have draft leaflets prepared and are waiting for final confirmation of a start date before we send them to print

m1 service still on for a January start.