

South Glos Council Update to SusCom members – 21 March 2018

Access West – update for March 2018 SusCom meeting

Business Engagement Activities

As we are now nearing the end of this financial year we have finalised our spending on employer grants and other aspects of the project. The final tally for this year is 13 grants totalling just over £26,500 with a match funding amount of over £42,000, 8 out of the 13 have gone to SusCom members

The big event for this quarter is the travel to work survey, the official week of the survey ended on Friday 16th and there were over 16,000 responses which is an excellent result so far. The survey remains open now until the end of March as some larger organisations were unable to publicise the initial survey week so there is still time for a final push!

Active Travel Champions

The active travel champions rebrand is moving ahead, a new logo has been designed and welcome pack is being developed. We now have a new stock of emergency cycle repair kits available for new registrations.

The first led walk held at UWE was a success, despite some torrential rain on the day, 14 intrepid walkers took part and enjoyed the event very much. We will be organising more walks across the South Glos area over the course of the project, please get in touch if you can suggest a suitable location for one of these walks.

We will be working closely with the other West of England authorities to deliver a joined up scheme across the region of the remainder of the Access West project, keep an eye out for details of events and activities that will be open to active travel champions across the region!

So far we have 44 champions from 27 organisations in the region, but we are still looking to build the network across South Gloucestershire. If you, or any colleagues you know of may be interested in becoming an 'Active Travel Champion' please contact transport.policy@southglos.gov.uk.

Travel Challenge

A tender process to appoint a provider for the challenge over the course of the Access West project has just been completed and scoring was completed on 16th March. Subject to approval from the project board we will announce the winning tenderer as soon as possible. More details about dates of the challenge will be announced soon.

JSP UPDATE

The 4 West Of England Local Authorities are continuing further development on the transport package 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 in late 2018.

The transport packages relevant to 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
 - Yate Station Improvements

- Bristol Ring of Park & Ride sites, including:
 - M32 Park & Ride site
 - A4018 Park & Ride site

Transport consultants are currently working-up Options Assessment Reports which examine options for (for example) of locations of the P&R sites and the level of service of MetroBus provision.

We will produce summary documents ahead of Public Consultation events to be held in the summer of 2018 – where the public, employers and other key stakeholders will be invited to comment and input on the options presented.

BHV UPDATE

We remain on schedule to remove the traffic management over the weekend of the 27th April with further works continuing until June that do not need the contraflow in place.

We will be gathering the traffic count data at the end of the project so we can see what effect there has been on travel options. We won't have pedestrian counts but will have cycling and traffic numbers. Anecdotally there appears to have been an increase in pedestrians.

RAIL UPDATE

MetroWest phase 1 is waiting for a decision on a major scheme fund bid which is expected in April. Work to implement MetroWest phase 2 continues as planned. Great Western electrification continues to disrupt services from stations in our area, passenger should check before they travel even if they have bought tickets in advance. Network Rail will be providing for a new footbridge and lifts for Patchway station but will need to put a temporary foot bridge in place to provide clearance for electrification.

CRIBBS PATCHWAY METROBUS EXTENSION

The agreed CPME route will operate between Bristol Parkway Station and The Mall bus station, via Hatchet Road, Gypsy Patch Lane, through the former Rolls Royce East Works site, along North Way, and through the Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood. Officers are continuing to progress survey and design work.

Planning applications for the scheme were submitted to the Local Planning Authority on 28 February and public consultation on those applications is underway. The planning application material can be viewed on the Council's website at <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/search-planning-applications/>

The application reference numbers to search for are:

- San Andreas roundabout PT18/0992/R3F
- North Way bus link PT18/0988/R3F
- Gypsy Patch Lane Railway bridge PT18/0986/F

- Gipsy Patch Lane highway works to east and west of the bridge PT18/0987/R3F

Subject to the granting of planning permission, construction of the scheme would start in 2019 with completion in 2021.

M4J 18a

The feasibility study undertaken during 2017 and 2018 is available to view at www.southglos.gov.uk/M4J18a. South Gloucestershire Council's Cabinet considered the outcomes of the study at their meeting on 12 March and supported its findings which show that the Western option via Emersons Green should be considered as the preferred location. If the scheme is taken forward, Highways England would then lead it, taking it through subsequent business case stages which involve further data collection, survey work and design. The ultimate decision on where to locate the new junction and link to the A4174 lies with Highways England and the Department for Transport.

CYCLING AND TRANSPORT POLICY UPDATE

LCWIP

Consultants WSP have been appointed to assist with the development of a West of England Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, and work has begun on the initial data collection phase of the work. There will be stakeholder engagement as part of this process, more details of which will be circulated via SusCom and the Cycle forum once available.

Cycle Forum

The next cycle forum meeting has been postponed until 6pm on Thursday 12th April 2018, and will be held at the Council Offices, Badminton Road, Yate. Please encourage your Cycle champions to attend. If anyone would be able to host a future meeting please contact us by email cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk.

Air Quality

Following a recent High court judgement, South Gloucestershire Council, (along with 44 other marginally exceeding local authorities), have now been mandated by DEFRA to carry out further work to consider actions that could bring forward expected compliance with modelled NO2 limits. For SGC the only location with a modelled exceedance according to the DEFRA model, is a section of the A4174 at Hambrook, and that is currently projected to be compliant by 2020.

This work is separate to the Air Quality Action Plan for Staple Hill and Kingswood-Warmley, as exceedances there are based on data measured on site, rather than the DEFRA national model.