

**Public Statements received for the West of England Combined Authority Audit Committee on 18
September 2023**

Statement 1

Public statement received from Dave Redgewell, Gordon Richardson & Robbie Bentley

On Behalf of:

**Bristol disability equalities forum.
Somerset bus partnership
Railfuture Severnside
South west transport Network**

We are still very concerned about the lack of an audit committee look at the money spent by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority
And in many case jointy with North Somerset council.

Their is a transport levy from the the city and county of Bristol.
Bath and North East Somerset council
And South Gloucestershire county council.
Of 19 .5 million pounds
With a contribution of money from
North Somerset council to the Transport levy .
£ 1. 816

To support none commercial bus services this budget by the council has been insufficient to kept community connected to the bus and Public Transport Network.
Many rural and inner city communities in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council
Have no access to Public transport
To go to work school College university heath provision basic shopping centre
Facilities and leasure and Tourism.

The hardest hit areas being rural communities in North East Somerset
South Gloucestershire and part of North Somerset.
In The city and county of Bristol area .
And Greater Bristol whole area of working Class estate have been left without bus services.
In Ashton vale estate, Bristlington Hungerford road. Whitchurch estate
The Dings parts of Easton and Eastville Stapleton Broomhill oidbury court Downend Bromley Heath .
Southmead hospital bus network has been reduced by a Quarter.
With no bus links to Uwe,Bristol parkway station, Bradley stoke ,Aztec west Hortham, Alverston, Thornbury.
The somer Valley. In village like Tunley
And the valley has lost Public bus service .
In Radstock Westfield midsomer Norton paulton without any Town bus service.

The route between Wells bus and coach station,Easton westbury sub Mendip Draycott Cheddar ,Axbridge, winscombe Banwell ,Locking, has been left without bus services to weston super mare Hospital or weston super mare college. And the shopping centre.

This policy has was shown as high risk be the Auditor and the committee
And with the exception of 2 routes in South Gloucestershire

Extra money in £ 514 to support 84 ,85
Route to South Gloucestershire county council for the yate park and ride to
Yate railway station , Yate bus station to chipping Sodbury Wickwar Charfield and Wotton under
Edge , with Gloucestershire county council
and 917 Seven Beach to Thornbury via Olverton,Alverston.
Former 622 service that continued to Tytherington and yate bus station and chipping Sodbury.

Other local Authorities have added
Extra money for 2 month to keep some bus service running but theses
Have now been withdrawn.
Service 672 Bristol South Bristol to the Chew valley and Blagdon.
Service 179 Bath spa bus and coach station to Tunley Timsbury Paulton midsomer Norton Tesco.
768 Bath spa bus and coach station to Tunley Timsbury Paulton, midsomer Norton ,Westfield
Radstock .
82 Paulton to midsomer Norton Radstock Town service.
Withdrawn July 2023
Service 52 Bishopsworth South Bristol hospital Bedminster,Redcliffe,Bristol city centre .
Withdrawn in September 2023 .
In Bristol city council area .
Have been withdrawn .

No westlink service have been provided in many parts of Bristol.
And another the mayor Dan Norris has had meeting in a few area on bus services the only areas for a
meeting has been in Blagdon and Stapleton Frenchay.

The west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council have failed
to carry out any public consultation in the area where
Bus service have been withdrawn
Other then as part of city regional transport strategy meetings.

In the climate change report
Public confidence is a high risk of public loss of Reputation with the Decarbonisation of Transport is
high risk .
With the public equalities duty also being of concern to stakeholders and the lack of equality officers
or a Equalities Department in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority
this has a great concern to stakeholders and local authorities members on the bus advisory
panel that meet recently.
Concessionary fare budget
Change of £ 13 018 £ 9 414
Variations £ 3.599

The government has allocated £ 57 .5
Plan money need to be audited
to see how the money has been spent
With a Extra £ 2.3 million pounds allocated by the UK government.
With of £ 105 million pounds With
North Somerset council.
We have no vaule for money test for the westlik Demand responsive bus services or price per
passenger.
Especially when 3 buses were sent within 15 of each other from Bedminster Down to Chew valley
with one passenger in each .

Although the £11 million pounds has been allocated to main line trunk routes
Across Greater Bristol and Bath

Such as the T1 Bristol city centre to Thornbury bus route
Bristol city centre to yate bus station and chipping Sodbury.

Y1 y2

X39 x39 Bristol bus and coach station to Bristlington saltford Newbridge Weston Bath spa bus and
coach station.

172 ,173, 174 Bath spa bus and coach station peasdown st john ,Radstock Westfield midsomer
Norton, paulton Chilcompton or / Shepton mallet and Wells bus and coach station.

Routes in Greater Bristol 1 ,2 ,3 ,4 6, 7

42 ,44 ,45 ,70 ,73 ,75, 76 .

Service x1 x4 x5 x6 x7 x8 x9

Bristol bus and coach station to weston super mare bus and coach station.

Service x4 to Bristol bus and coach station to pill and , Portishead

X6 x7

Bristol bus and coach station to Clevedon.

X8 x9

Bristol bus and coach station to Nalisea and Backwell.

X5 Portishead to Clevedon and weston super mare bus and coach station

Their are variations on the concessionary fare budget.

And £ 3 16 million of loss milage .

But no reference to the operator failing to Delivery the west of England mayoral combined transport
Authority/ North Somerset council bus contracts .

£2,293 is allocated to the bus service improvement plans.

Or any mention of vaule for money and price per passenger on the westlink contract .

Bus service contracts and Demand responsive bus services are being Audited by the west Yorkshire
combined transport Authority.

But not at present by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority
Audit commission.

On west of England mayoral combined transport Authority railway service.

15 .5 million pounds is allocated to reopening the Bristol Temple meads station To pill and
Portishead line.

But the business case is being rewritten.

For submission to the Department for Transport In spring 2024 by the west of England combined
transport Authority and North Somerset council Transport Authority.

£2 948 is allocated to the Metro west phase 2

£ 9 556

£2,965 To Bristol Temple meads station Eastern Entrance.

£ 709 to develop of Charfield station.

£5 . 932 million on metro west Railway.

£ 1 982 million to portway park and ride railway and bus interchange.

But with £35 million pounds of allocation to metro west railway service
The network of service From Bristol Temple meads station To Filton Abbey wood station Bristol
parkway station yate Charfield cam and the Dursley Gloucester central Cheltenham spa Ashchurch
for Tewkesbury Worcester Shrub Hill and Worcester Forgate Street
Bristol Temple meads station keynsham Oidfiled park Bath spa Freshford Avonclife Bradford on Avon
Trowbridge Westbury Dilton marsh warminster Salisbury / Frome.
Taunton Bridgwater Highbridge and Burnham on sea Weston super mare weston million Worle
parkway Yatton for clevedon Nalisea and Backwell Parson street Bedminster Bristol Temple meads
Bristol Lawrence Hill
Bristol Stapleton Road. Montpellier Redland Clifton Down station, sea Mills
Shirehampton , Portway park and ride
Avonmouth st Andrew Road , Severn Beach.
Weston super mare station Bridge access scheme.

With contracts with the Department for Transport and First group plc Greater Western trains
limited.

Our concern are the Railway station on
The metro west railway system
Do not have tickets machines at sea Mills Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock St Andrews Road and
Severn Beach.
Patchway,piling or Freshford.

With the Department for transport.
Closure of tickets offices at Cheltenham spa ,Gloucester central yate Bristol parkway station Filton
Abbey wood Bristol Temple meads station.
Keynsham, Oidfiled park, Bath spa Bradford on Avon Trowbridge Westbury warminster Salisbury/
Frome.
Nalisea and Backwell Yatton for clevedon.Worle parkway,Weston super mare, Bridgwater and
Taunton.
Is a major revenue risk in this year's metro west railway budget.
Having tickets less travel on the Network.

With so many Transport operation and service delivery of public transport
And as the Regional Transport Authority.
Their appear to be not enough look at Public transport and Transport delivery by the west of
England mayoral combined Authority Audit commission.
With many service being provided to the Taxpayer and voters of the unity councils and the west of
England mayoral combined Authority.
And the metro mayor Dan Norris.

Especially with the levelling up bill
When it becomes an act
Bringing North Somerset council and the local Enterprise partnership in to the west of England
mayoral combined Authority.

We need the same Audit of public transport Network service and schemes
As the west Midlands combined Authority mayor Andy street
And Greater Manchester combined transport Authority mayor Andy Burnham.

And Liverpool City Region
Mayor Steve Rotherham.