

STATEMENTS RECEIVED FOR THE WEST OF  
ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY COMMITTEE ON  
15 MARCH 2024

List of Statements Received:

1. Mrs Bobby Oliver
2. David Redgewell
3. Rosa Kell
4. Emilia Melville
5. Georgia Statham
6. Brendan Taylor/Ian Beckey

## Statement 1- Mrs Bobby Oliver

I am Bobby Oliver, Hubs Mobility Advice Lead for West of England, and my job is to advise people on ways to get around without a car - most of the people that I help have recently been told that they can no longer drive for medical reasons, and this comes as a big shock to them. This will be an increasing problem, with an aging population and with more diagnoses of cognitive impairment or dementia. There is a confusing array of transport choices, which look good on paper, but do not people's needs in reality. 'Retirement from driving' is one of the things that I encourage people to plan for, rather than denying that it will happen, and having it thrust upon them.

I am looking forward to seeing how the new WESTlink Zones will help people living in rural areas, and WESTlocal will come into play. A publicity drive, and clear instructions to staff about what type of journeys are allowed, will surely help. Of course, it will still not help those living in the urban areas such as the City of Bristol, and areas of South Gloucestershire such as Kingswood, even if people do not live within easy reach of a bus stop.

I spend a lot of time recommending community transport options for people but these services are so stretched and underfunded that they cannot offer journeys that people require all of the time. Their funding has been cut in effect by not being reimbursed for the fares of people using concessionary bus passes, so that they all have to charge per journey as well as the annual membership fee, to create what the transport planners have called a 'level playing field', although community transport is not a game or a competition, and people do not have a choice about which scheme they use because they operate in geographical areas. This is disproportionately affecting South Glos ShopMobility, which is very small and relies on the bus pass reimbursement to cover running costs. (They have been compensated this year, but this will cease by 2026). There are other caveats of the WECA grants which really show a disregard for the way that community transport charities use their funding which I will not set out here, but suffice to say that WECA are trying to force the community transport sector into a centrally administrated commercial model much more like WESTlink. The community feel and local knowledge will be lost.

One of things that my job demands is a quarterly report to the Department for Transport, which I am pleased to say will include a section about bus services that have been brought in to partially replace those cut by First Bus, including the 25 run by Transpora. I also have to report where there is a lack of services and that will be quite comprehensive.

I look forward to the WECA and unitary authorities 'reset' as stated in the Scrutiny Committee meeting on Monday, and hope that more agreement over transport funding and provision will result.

## Statement 2 – David Redgewell

With the west of England mayoral combined Authority in special measures we are concerned about progress and working together on public transport and especially bus service the Department for levelling up and are worried about Bristol city council, Banes and South Gloucestershire county council work together and funding through the Transport levy , The Duplication of officer function where Bristol city council, Banes so appear large Transport Department is carrying out functions that should be run by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority

South Gloucestershire county council has transferred more of its functions and staff to west of England mayoral combined transport Authority,

Bus shelter maintenance in Bristol is very expensive for the Taxpayer with Bristol city council attending to repair shelters and infrastructure contractors when the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority attending to repair real-time information systems and put up timetables also happen in South Gloucestershire county council and Banes.

By now we should have had and bus shelter maintenance service across the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council, which by now should be applying to join the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority

Maintenance and management of bus and coach station and interchanges

For example bus shelters in pegasus road, Durbin Road Asda stores bus station ,Cribbs causeway bus station Highwood Road including metrobus are not being maintained or in Henbury crow lane Interchange, Bristol Temple meads station, Temple Gate,

Or lower Bristol Road Bath Somerset,

Bus service have caused many problems in the city Region with many communities, rural and urban estates

Loosing service because the local councils would not raise the Transport levy ,despite requests from the metro mayor Dan Norris asking councils to protect vital bus and coach services

To work school College university heath provision hospital basic food shopping trips leisure and Tourism facilities,

The councils did not increase the levy

Westlink Demand responsive bus services were not a replacement service as west link Demand responsive bus services is designed as a feeder service to main line ,bus coach and railway services,

So bus service were withdrawn and

In some cases temporary bus ran

and many area were then left in Banes ,south Gloucestershire and Greater Bristol without bus services.

**NO OTHER COUNCILS OR COMBINED TRANSPORT AUTHORITYS HAD RUN**

Temporary bus service in England just get over local elections, but it happened in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan area ,

With many communities without public bus services and the cost of living crisis people unable to afford taxi's

and council leaders and the metro mayor unable to reach agreement on the bus subsidies and bus services improvement plan funding,

Passengers groups, equalities forums

Residents and older people forums

And mps of all colours luke Hall ,kerry

Mccarthy , Geoffrey Clifton Brown ,cotswolds,mp sioban Baillie mp Stroud wera Hobhouse mp for Bath all raised the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus network and services to the Cotswolds and in to Somerset unity council area

Question in the house of commons to Transport secretary mark Harper mp and the busminister Richard Holden mp , were raised on the bus service cuts across the city Regional, Somerset and Gloucestershire,

Permission was given to use bus services improvement plan money on support services alongside local council funding to bring back vital bus services in urban and rural communities but talks failed to agree a way forward at west of England mayoral combined Authority committee and joint committee meetings

So passengers groups, communities groups older people forum disability equalities forums Residents association tenants association, civic groups.

All ask the secretary of state for Transport mark Harper mp and Michael gove to look at the situation in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan area ,

Today we have seen the government take action to bring in panel to help run the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and hopefully focus on delivering public transport Network service for the city Region and restore public bus services, Following the auditors report.

The also a need for a equalities officer at the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council,

And Panel set up by the Department of levelling up working for stakeholders and passengers For a clear plan on light rail system planning in the city Region,

For delivery of bus rail Interchange facilities and interchanges,

On Ferry services, Improvement including accessibility to ferries and Harbours ,

The future arrangements for the local Enterprise partnership in the west of England in the Greater Bristol and Bath city region and North Somerset council,

And it's merger in the west of England mayoral combined Authority.

With North Somerset council becoming a full member in the elections mayoral Elections 2025 ,

We need The leaders of Bristol city council, Bristol mayor and future leader leaders of South Gloucestershire county council, Banes and North Somerset council and the metro mayor Dan Norris and officers to be delivering high quality public transport Network services For the city Region.

Like Andy Burnham in Greater Manchester combined Transport Authority Steve Rotherham Liverpool City Region combined transport Authority, Andy street west Midlands combined Transport Authority,

We need to replace urgent the Interm Directors and chief executive officer

With employees of the west of England mayoral combined Authority and local Enterprise partnership,

To have a head of bus and coaches who is employed by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council,

A paid public servant.

The head of public transport Network

Must be west of England mayoral combined transport Authority officer

That not to say Bob scowen is not doing a good job but we need all staff as employees of the Authority urgently,

For Bus services improvement plan panel meetings to include bus service changes agree with passengers group for discussion as per Department for transport instructions and guidelines,

The last meeting finished 25 minutes early and did not discuss the bus operators changes at stagecoach west, First Group plc Wales and West buses Division, Transpora buses, big lemon buses, Gwent vale travel buses, A bus or any other company,

So passengers groups were unable to comment on bus services improvement plan funded services and advice the Bus service improvement plan Advisory Board,

There is major concern about officer running advisor panel working groups and not Democratically Elected members, raised by Labour Councillor Transport executive

councillor Hannah young, North Somerset council and councillor Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol city council and chair of Western Gateway Transport Board, And officer representing Banes and South Gloucestershire county council Transport councillors Sarah Warren Fiona\_Gourley and Chris Willmore and matt Palmer at South Gloucestershire County council,

We also need to Bus passengers forum

For passengers in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council area

Especially with Bus services improvement plans having to be Resubmitted to the Department for transport on the 12 th June 2024

Including community safety partnership Working with the police forces.

Avon and Somerset police, British Transport police, Bristol port police,

Intergrated Transport and interchanges improvements With bus rail coach and ferry services,

But facilities at Bus stop and interchanges bus and coach station for passengers with reduced mobility,

Details of shortages of bus and coach services staff Drivers cleaners engineers,

Supervisors and managers at bus and coach Depot in the city Region at weston super mare, Wells, Bath and Bristol Hengrove and Lawrence Hill Depot of First Group plc, Wales and West buses Division,

Stagecoach west Patchway and Stroud bus Depots ,Big lemon buses at parson Street station Bristol, Transpora buses in Lydd Green Bristol, Favesaver buses Chippenham Wiltshire, and other bus operators,

We are also very short of Engineers

For our bus and coach services maintenance facilities,

Improvement in Bus and coach clean and presentation of buses washing and cleaning,

The mayor visited stagecoach west Bristol Depot to highlight cleaning of buses and bus presentation on the city Region bus network,

Closer working with the western Gateway Transport Board chair councillors Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol,city council and

Peninsula Transport Board,

Covering the south west of England,

The west of England mayoral combined Authority act ,

Which is set up to include North Somerset council,

An issue passengers groups and stakeholders want the government improvement panel to address urgently North Somerset council membership of west of England mayoral combined Authority,

Powers to joint fund through the Transport levy the supported bus service Network,

Under the 1985 act ,

And the 2017 Transport Acts.

The west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council have the powers to Tender the none commercial bus network,

So communities are not cut off from schools, colleges, universities work, Heath care hospital and basic food shopping trips shopping facilities, railway station, and leisure and Tourism facilities,

The Transport acts are not being followed in west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan area,

The Transport levy not been increased

To fund bus services by Bristol city council, South Gloucestershire county council and Bath and North East Somerset council, and North Somerset council so vital public bus services have been withdrawn,

Many rural bus services do in fact form urban bus routes in to Bristol, Bath and weston super mare,

West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council officer must present options to the Elected mayor Dan Norris and councillor Hannah young transport executive North Somerset council, Councillors Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol city council and Western Gateway Transport Board chair, Councillors Chris Willmore and matt Palmer at South Gloucestershire County council and Fiona\_Gourley and Sarah Warren option for bus services to be maintained across the city Region into Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire and Swindon Councils.

Report of Bus and coach stations must go to Transport, Housing and planning boards THIS THE ONLY COMBINED TRANSPORT AUTHORITYS Where these meeting are in private, Not Public,

West Yorkshire combined transport Authority, South Yorkshire combined transport Authority, Liverpool City Region, Greater Manchester combined Authority and mayor Transport Committee meet in Public,

Bus service are a market failure and requires large sum of public funding to support over £11 million people of revenue support from the bus service improvement plan money.

Over £ 105 million pounds of Taxpayers money in the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council joint Bus services improvement plan, Government fare cap money, west of England mayoral combined transport Authority mayor Dan Norris and councillor Hannah young,

Fares schemes

Soon to end July 2024 .

Birthday card fares scheme,

Care leavers scheme,

We need to move forward with and Enhanced quality partnership with First Group plc Wales and West buses Division and Stagecoach west, and other bus operators,

Whilst with North Somerset council a full member of the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority by the mayoral Elections of 2025

Precepting powers for public transport requires an order in the house of commons and to Franchise the city Region bus network,

Like Greater Manchester combined Authority mayor Andy Burnham,

Liverpool City Region mayor Steve Rotherham and West Yorkshire combined transport Authority and south Yorkshire combined transport Authority, Are all set to Franchising the bus network and Take more control of the local railway network,

Andy street west Midlands combined Authority mayor Andy street is looking at Franchising the bus network.

As. Is Strathclyde transport Authority in Greater Glasgow and Transport for Wales and labour Welsh government,

We must plan more public control of our bus services

Passengers groups Our concern that the Secretary of state for Transport mark Harper mp and Michael gove Secretary of the for levelling up.

Will not fully fund the Transport Authority bus service improvement plan in review or Transport scheme unless this TRANSPORT AUTHORITYS STARTS TO WORK FOR PASSENGERS RESIDENTS Taxpayers and communities and sort out who to work for the Bristol and Bath city region and parts of Somerset and Gloucestershire,

We have a need for the Department for transport funding for the Bristol Temple meads station, Parson street Bedminster, pill and Portishead line

Future station Ashton Gate

£50 million pounds required and Department for Transport funding approval we to make progress on this and North Somerset council and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority mayor Dan Norris make progress on this project with government urgent before the General election,

On bus services Some services were saved like the 84 85 yate Park and ride Yate Railway station yate bus and coach station Wickwar Charfield and Wotton under Edge,

Thanks to admission in South Gloucestershire county council councillors Chris Willmore and Matt Palmer working with council Phillips Robinson executive member for transport Gloucestershire county council,

But services 622 Cribbs Causeway bus station to Bristol Zoo, Olverton Alverton Thornbury Tytherington and Yate bus and coach station,  
Apart from school buses

Services 10, 11 Avonmouth Dock, Lawrence Weston Westbury on Trym Southmead hospital bus station Uwe bus station Bristol Parkway railway station Aztec West roundabout Hortham Alverton and Thornbury the

Section from Bristol Parkway limited service, to Thornbury been withdrawn.

And the very important bus services from Bristol city centre, St Paul's, St Werburghes, Eastville Park Stapleton Broomhill, Fishponds, Downend Bromley Heath has been withdrawn.

With no services to Stapleton and Broomhill still today,

This was raised in the House of Commons by Kerry McCarthy MP and in Bristol City Council by Councillor Marley Bennett Labour and at Bristol full council meeting with a petition from local residents and stakeholders left without a bus service,

Whilst we welcome the bus service improvement in the Bristol City Region

With the new bus services.

By First Group PLC Wales and West Buses Division and Stagecoach West and Transporta buses.

On service 24 Ashton Vale estate to Southville, Bedminster, Bristol City Centre, Bristol Cabot Circus, Old Market Street, Stapleton Road Station Eastville Park Tesco, Horfield Lockleaze Southmead hospital bus station.

First Group PLC bus services

Service 23 Ashton Vale estate, Southville, Bedminster, Bristol City Centre, 47 Downend, Oldbury Court, Fishponds Road, Fishponds Road Stapleton Road Station Eastville Easton, Bristol City Centre,

Service 5 Clifton, Park Street Bristol City Centre, Bristol Broadmead Shopping Centre Cabot Circus, Old Market Street, Barton Hill, St Anne's Park, this service needs extension Bristlington Hungerford Road, Knowle, Hengrove Hospital Imperial Park Hartcliffe, As raised in an open letter to Mayor Dan Norris by Councillor Kerry Balies.

Labour,

Service 41 Kingwood Town Centre, St George, Lawrence Hill Station, Bristol City Centre Harbourside, Hotwells, Portway Sea Mills, Shirehampton Avonmouth Sevenside, Replacement for service 3, Bristol Broadmead Shopping Centre, Bristol City Centre, Park Street Clifton Down Station Sea Mills, Shirehampton, Avonmouth Lawrence Weston, Henbury and Cribbs Causeway bus and coach station,

But West of England Mayoral Combined Transport Authority has not put a replacement services in place for service 3,

Service 77 is a new First Group PLC Wales and West Buses Division service from Henleaze to Clifton Down Station, Park Street, Bristol City Centre Bristol Broadmead Shopping Centre, Gloucester Road Montpellier Railway Station approach Horfield Common.

But the service should extend to Southmead hospital bus station,

Service 1 is major issues in Bristlington

With a proposal for service from Cribbs Causeway bus station Westbury Clifton Down Station Park Street Collage Green, Bristol City Centre, Bristol Broadmead Shopping Centre, Cabot Circus Bristol Temple Meads Station Arnos Vale Bristlington Sandy Park Road St Anne's Park Guilford Road Broomhill Bristlington Hungerford Road Bristlington Village School Road loop, as 1 a

Service 1 running on the normal route

From Bristol Temple Meads Station Arnos Vale Bristlington Sandy Park Road Shopping Centre, Alison Road Broomhill extended to Bristlington Park and Ride site,

Raised in a petition to Mayor Dan Norris by Councillor Tim Rippington Labour Bristlington and supported by

Labour Councillors and Liberal Democrats Councillors in Brislington,  
New Transpora buses Bristol  
Are Services 90 Imperial park Hartcliffe, Hengrove, Knowle Bedminster, Redcliffe Bristol city centre,  
Service 23 Ashton vale estate Southville, Bedminster, Redcliffe, Bristol city centre Bristol Broadmead shopping centre,  
Service 25 Bristol city centre, St Paul's St Werburghs Eastville park, Fishponds Higher frequency.  
And Sunday services.  
925 Newport to Bristol bus and coach station via Cribbs Causeway bus station and Clifton Down station,  
Service 60, Thornbury Fairfield, Charfield Cam and the Dursley and Dursley May Lane bus and coach station,  
Service 62 Thornbury, Berkeley Sharpness, Cam and Dursley station, Cam and Dursley May Lane bus station,  
New operator  
Gwent Vale  
New services West Loial,  
Bath Odd Down Park and Ride Tunley, Timsbury Paulton Midsomer Norton Westfield Radstock,  
Bristol to the Chew Valley,  
X91 one journey in each direction  
Bristol bus and coach station, Bristol Temple Meads station, Totterdown Knowle Hengrove Whitchurch Pensford Clutton Farringdon Gurney Chewton Mendip Wells bus and coach station Glastonbury street to Taunton  
Regional service 374  
First Group plc Wales and West Buses Division  
Service 375 Bristol bus and coach station, Bristol Temple Meads station, Totterdown Knowle Hengrove Whitchurch Pensford Clutton, Chewton Mendip Wells bus and coach station Glastonbury street Walton to Bridgwater railway station, Bridgwater bus and coach station  
New regional bus service,  
First Group plc Wales and West Buses Division,  
  
Service 376 Bristol bus and coach station, Bristol Temple Meads, Totterdown Knowle Hengrove Whitchurch Pensford 376a via Paulton and Midsomer Norton Wells bus and coach station Glastonbury and street,  
Revised service, 376 a via Paulton and Midsomer Norton,  
But the following bus services need restoring in Bristol,  
Service 25 Or 26 Transporta buses service Bristol city centre, St Paul's, St Werburghs Eastville park Stapleton Broomhill Fishponds Oldbury Court  
Stapleton is left with a bus service,  
Service 622 Cribbs Causeway bus station, Bristol Zoo, Olverton Alverston Thornbury Tytherington and Yate bus and coach station,  
84, 85 Yate Park and Ride site, Yate railway station, Yate bus station, Wickwar Charfield, Wotton Under Edge,  
This service needs to be retained  
Joint with South Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire County Council  
Service 10 11 Avonmouth Dock, Shirehampton, Westbury on Trym Southmead hospital bus station, extension to UWE bus station, Bristol Parkway railway station Aztec West roundabout Hortham Alverston and Thornbury,  
  
Service 522 Bristol city centre Bristol Temple Meads station Arncliffe Brislington Keynsham Marksbury Timsbury, Paulton Midsomer Norton Westfield Radstock, Peasdown St John Bath Spa bus and coach station,  
Need diversion via Chandag Road in Keynsham,

Bishopsworth to Hengrove, Bedminster Bristol city centre, Tesco Eastville, Eastville, Easton and Dings and Bristol Temple meads station need a westlink Demand responsive bus services,  
But we need to get the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council, city Region, to work together with Bristol city council, caz money and Transport levy ,Banes council caz money Transport levy, South Gloucestershire county council transport levy  
All council car park charges ,to fund bus services  
On westlink Demand responsive bus services  
Westlink Demand responsive bus operated by Ezecc medical services drivers are not on Eu regulations.  
The Traffic Commissioner Kevin Rooney has instructed the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council to design 20 minute zones that connect with Bus services coach services and metro west Railway Network services,  
So westlink buses are not being used for middle Class taxis style services  
But link to park and ride site at long Ashton ,Bristlington, Odd Down, Portway park and ride, Bristol parkway, Emerson green, and Yate .  
Cribbs causeway bus station, Southmead hospital bus station, uwe Bus and coach station, Filton Abbey wood station, Patchway station, Bristol parkway station, Bristol Temple meads station to connect with metro west railway Network stations  
Hub at Bristol Airport connections with the Falcon coaches part of megabus Scottish City link coaches to Bristol city centre, Bristol Bond Street.  
Churchill ,East Brent, Bridgwater, Taunton, Wellington, Cullompton Exeter, Newton Abbot and Plymouth coach station,  
We need westlink Demand responsive bus services to link people to school College university work ,Heath care hospital, basic food shopping, shopping centres leisure and Tourism,  
It is essential that we get Demand responsive bus services that do not cost the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council more than £ 10 per passenger which the cost per passenger is now costing a considerable higher amount of Taxpayers money,  
Or will this service contract just run its present form until it is terminated in 18 months time ,  
We welcome the need westlink Demand responsive bus services Zones from 8 th April 2024 Linking to main line ,bus service,coach services, Megabus Scottish City Falcon coaches, Ferries services and Metro west Railway stations  
Metro west railway Network  
We need to make progress on the Bristol Temple meads station Bedminster parson Street,Ashton Gate new station, pill and Portishead,  
Bristol Temple meads station,Bristol Lawrence hill, Bristol Stapleton road Ashley Down station, Filton Abbey wood station, Filton North, Henbury for cribbs causeway and Bristol zoo,  
We need see progress on the new Railway station at Henbury including disabled access to Henbury Village for passengers with reduced mobility and partly sighted passengers, mother and Father's with buggies.  
and progress on Charfield station,  
On the Bristol Temple meads station Filton Abbey wood, Bristol parkway station, Yate Charfield new station, cam and Dursley, stonehouse Bristol Road Gloucester central Cheltenham spa Ashchurch for Tewkesbury Worcester Shrub Hill, Worcester Forgeate Street,  
We also need signalling on the new level crossing at Avonmouth Dock as Network rail are replacing the level crossing, so we must plan for the Henbury loop expansion,  
Disabled accessible lift to weston super mare lift Nalisea and Backwell, Parson Street, Bristol Lawrence, Bristol Stapleton road, Avonmouth, Cheltenham spa,  
And an number of accessible train to

To replace the inter city Express trains on the Bristol Temple meads station to Filton Abbey station, Bristol parkway station yate, Charfield new station Cam and Dursley, Gloucester central, Cheltenham spa Ashchurch for Tewkesbury Worcester Shrub Hill Worcester Forgate Street,

Inter city Express trains cross country

Can not pick up wheelchair accessible passengers in first class wheelchair space if the train does not platform at Yate, Cam and Dursley and Ashchurch for Tewkesbury

With the need for a transport plan bus services and metro west Railway Network services for the gravity factory in Bridgwater Somerset

On Agrulas Tata factory in Purton working With Bridgwater Town Council, Somerset council Transport Authority, western Gateway Transport Board chair councillors Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol city council, and Peninsula Transport Board, chair councillors Andra Davis ,

Bus and coach services network with First group plc South buses Division From Greater Bristol, South Bristol weston super mare and Bath,

and a railway link on metro west Railway Network to Puriton Station on the freight railway line in the Battery's factory to move the Battery's to the west Midlands Tata BMW factory, Passengers railway services from Bristol Temple meads station, Bedminster Parson street, Nalisea and Backwell, Yatton for clevedon, Worle parkway, Weston millon, Weston super mare, Highbridge and Burnham on sea to Puriton station, New station Bridgwater, Taunton, Wellington, New station Cullompton new station and Exeter St David s

West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council need to play Major role in in the Bristol city Region and the south west of England,

We have a failure raised at the western Gateway Transport Board,

Of Railway replacement services on the Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol Lawrence hill, Bristol Stapleton road, Montpellier, Clifton Down station sea Mills Shirehampton Portway park and ride Avonmouth Dock, St Andrews Road seven Beach,

Where no railway replacement services operated on the routes from Clifton Down station to Severn Beach,

Whilst ticket acceptance was in operation on First group plc local buses Wales and West Division same company as First Group plc Great Western Railway company limited,

No railway replacement bus services operated on the route on 12th ,13 th March 2024 ,

A service funded by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and mayor Dan Norris and councillor Hannah young transport executive North Somerset council, First Group plc should have provided a railway replacement services.

Service 9 stagecoach west buses

Portway park and ride site, Shirehampton sea Mills, Hotwells, Harbourside, Bristol city centre Bristol Broadmead shopping centre Cabot circus, Bristol Temple meads station and Bristlington park and ride site.

Should have had extra bus to carry the passengers

We saw not west of England mayoral combined transport Authority officers out looking at the public transport Network and the Railway operating system which the mayor funds .

Similar we have no ticket machine at sea Mills, Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock ,St Andrews Road and Severn Beach ,Patchway, and Freshford station, Bristol Stapleton road, to protect the

West of England mayoral combined transport Authority Railway revenue.

And Trowbridge Railway station closed Toilets and disabled toilets, waiting room and ticket office closed and Ticket machines not working,

With customer travelling free on metro west Railway services,

This need raising with First group plc Greater Western trains company limited And the Department for transport,

Malcolm Parsons Railway Directorate need to Raise this issue and with Wiltshire Council Transport officers and councillors Caroline Thomas vice chair of Transport western Gateway Transport Board Wiltshire Council, Transport executive,

We need to Make progress on Bristol to portway park and ride, bus lanes scheme,  
Bristol to Fishponds Road Eastville park, Fishponds and Downend scheme,  
A367 Bath spa bus and coach station to peasdown st john,Radstock Westfield midsomer  
Norton paulton A37 Farrington Gurney Clutton whitchurch, Hengrove knowle, Totterdown  
Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol city centre Bristol Broadmead shopping centre, Clifton  
Down, Southmead hospital bus Southmead, Henbury cribbs causeway bus station bus  
corridors scheme,  
M32 Bristol to North fringe  
Park and ride site and scheme,  
Bristol to Thornbury.  
Bristol to Yate and chipping Sodbury bus corridor.  
Bristol to Portishead bus corridor  
Bristol to Clevedon bus corridor  
Bristol to Bristol Airport, Churchill, East Brent and Bridgwater bus corridor,  
As part of the bus services improvement plan and city region transport strategy,  
We must make progress as an intergrated Transport Authority  
A labour government will expect this Transport Authority to function for the passenger and  
stakeholder groups  
Just like a Conservative one or Liberal Democrats/ labour party collation government,  
The North Somerset council membership issue need addressing after the Bristol city council  
and police and crime commissioner elections,  
Please play nice together for the passenger that use your public transport Network service,  
West link  
West bus  
Metro west  
West train  
West e bike  
West scooter  
Ferry services,  
Interchange all. Part fund or run with the private sector by the west of England mayoral  
combined transport Authority and North Somerset council.  
Western Gateway Transport Board.  
Mayor Andy Burnham start his meeting with an update on equilities network and passenger  
services.  
Not if Salford can agree with Manchester or Lancashire councils today  
Please please work together  
We must make the west of England mayoral combined Authority with North Somerset  
council as a full member work for passengers residents and stakeholders of the region.  
David redgewell South west transport Network and Railfuture Severnside,

## Statement 3 – Rosa Kell

We welcome the commitment by Mayor Dan Norris to work together with Bath and North East Somerset council, South Gloucestershire county council, Bristol city council and North Somerset council, On the bus service improvement plan,

With the Authority in special measures.

We are concerned that the bus service improvement plan investment continues and the more money is found to improve bus services across the Region from the Transport levy and caz money in Bath and Bristol.

We welcome the new  
X91 Chew valley to Bristol city centre  
Commuter bus service.

With Chew valley partnership and Transporta buses,  
Paulton Town Council lead on service 179 ,Radstock, Westfield Paulton midsomer Norton,  
Timsbury Bath spa odd Down Park and Ride, service  
Big lemon buses,

The review of westlink Demand responsive bus services,  
We want to see the zone that links with bus service 126 Weston super mare bus and coach station, Weston super mare railway station, Uphill hospital, Hutton Banwell, Winscombe Axbridge cheddar Draycott, Westbury sub Mendip Easton and Wells bus and coach station, Link with westlink Demand responsive bus services at Axbridge.

And on the street, Glastonbury, Wells bus and coach station, Chewton Mendip Farringdon Gurney, Clutton Pensford whitchurch, Hengrove knowle Hengrove, knowle Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol bus and coach station,

Service link with westlink Demand responsive bus services to the Chew valley, and Hengrove hospital,

And Paulton midsomer Norton hospital,  
Better interchange at Farringdon Gurney, Clutton Charlwood Bridge ,Pensford and whitchurch,

We welcome the new regional bus service improvement,  
Bristol bus and coach station to Bristol Temple meads station, knowle Hengrove,Whitchurch Pensford Clutton Farringdon Gurney Chewton Mendip Wells bus and coach station  
Glastonbury street Walton to Bridgwater railway station and bus station.

375.

With First group plc Wales and West buses Division and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and Somerset council

374 Bristol bus and coach station to Bristol Temple meads station, knowle Hengrove Whitchurch Pensford Clutton Farringdon Gurney Chewton Mendip Wells bus and coach station, Glastonbury street Walton and Taunton.

First Group plc Wales and West buses Division and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council,

We still need progress on a 377

Bristol bus and coach station, Bristol Temple meads station, knowle Hengrove, Whitchurch Pensford Clutton Farringdon Gurney Chewton Mendip Wells bus and coach station, Glastonbury and street, Somerton Ilchester and Yeovil Yeovil bus and coach station,  
To complete the Regional links

And Yeovil bus and coach station terminal building for toilets and changing waiting room to remain open,

Cross boundary services,.Bath spa bus and coach station, to Midford, Norton St Philips marsh, Rode Beckington and Frome, sainsbury  
Express D2 x Bath spa bus and coach station to Frome sainsbury,  
First Group plc Wales and West buses Division,  
Somerset council and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority,

Service D1 Bath spa bus and coach station, Bathampton Winsley Bradford on Avon Trowbridge Westbury warminster for Salisbury  
With the new Frome Cork Street Warminster Town centre Salisbury service ,  
And D1 x Bath spa bus and coach station and Bathford, Bradford on Avon and Trowbridge,

We welcome all these improvements With Wiltshire Council and Somerset council,  
We still need to clean and maintain real time information for Bath and coach station to Bathampton Winsley Bradford on Avon Trowbridge Westbury warminster Salisbury corridor and shelters cleaning and repairs  
I look very poor at present,

We need the Bus service improvement plan corridor improvement on bus shelters from Bath spa bus and coach station to Knowle Hengrove Whitchurch Pensford Clutton Farrington Gurney Chewton Mendip to include bus station facilities at Wells bus and coach station, Glastonbury and street,

And Bath spa bus and coach station to to peasdown st john, Radstock Westfield midsomer Norton paulton/ Chilcompton, Shepton mallet and Wells Bus and coach station to Work with Somerset Council.

On the bus service improvement plan s

On passengers facilities across the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority North Somerset council and Somerset council.

On Transport security and interchanges

Disabled accessible toilets,

Cctv cameras at bus interchange

And facilities at clevedon, Portishead, Nalisea, Radstock and midsomer Norton,

Service 522 Bristol bus and coach station to operate via Anos vale Bristlington keynsham chandag Estate, marksbury Timsbury Paulton midsomer Norton Camerton and Tunley.  
For west of England mayoral combined transport Authority to talk to Banes about First group proposal for

179 Radstock Westfield midsomer Norton paulton Timbury Tunley Bath spa bus and coach station,

To run aside west local,

And for more bus service from the Chew valley and south Bristol to Bristol,

Bishopsworth to Hengrove hospital and Bristol city centre,

Bristol City centre Bristol Broadmead shopping centre Cabot circus oid market Street, Barton hill st Anne's park Brislington Hungerford road, Knowle Hengrove Whitchurch estate

Hartcliffe service to be restored as part of service number 5 from Clifton and park street,

And for service 1 cribbs causeway bus station to Clifton Down station park street Bristol city centre Bristol Broadmead shopping centre Cabot circus Bristol Temple meads station Arnos vale Bristlington sandy park road shopping centre Wick Road , Guildford Road Broomhill Brislington Hungerford road school Road Bristlington loop as 1a ,

Weston super mare bus and coach station to weston super mare railway station, weston hospital, Brean Berrow Burnham on sea to run as a through service to Highbridge Town Bridgwater and Taunton, 20 21 .

With a winter service.

And better bus railway interchange at weston super mare station and passenger lifts  
,Nalisea and Backwell lift s,  
Portishead, pill ,Parson street Bedminster Bristol Temple meads  
On Portishead Railway line.  
Please work for passengers at the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority  
and North Somerset council,  
And work together.  
Rosa kell Somerset bus partnership  
Somerset catch the bus campaign

## Statement 4 – Emilia Melville

We welcome the conversation in the Scrutiny Committee on Monday about the governance of WECA, and were pleased to see Dan Norris attending and responding to questions. The governance of the West of England or former Avon area has been a barrier to effective public transport for a long time preceding the creation of WECA. We are now looking to WECA to provide the coherence and leadership needed to achieve effective public transport for all. This requires collaborative participation of all of the UAs.

We also heard a lot of comments desiring better communication and transparency, and active collaborative relationships with the WECA mayor and officers. From our standpoint it does seem that many things are happening behind closed doors and then announced as a finished product rather than developed collaboratively and transparently. This is also a necessary part of building trust and effective collaboration.

We are aware of the tendency to be parochial as Dan says, and agree with the need for transport investment to make sense for the region as a whole, rather than be divvied up between the authorities. Given the nature of travel as journeys from one place to another, delivering good transport in one area brings a benefit to people in all areas, whether from reduced congestion and better air quality due to less through traffic, or better journey availability.

We welcome the explanation of the Citizens Assembly outcomes prioritising bus services. While we are glad to see specific mention of younger and older people, and prioritisation of good connectivity for rural areas, we are disappointed not to see mention of Disability and accessibility of buses. This is essential, as many Disabled people are fully reliant on buses and have fewer other transport options. Accessibility includes making it easy for people to use buses without having to be digitally literate.

We also would like to see reliability as a greater priority, as lack of reliability, or certainty that a scheduled bus will even turn up, is a significant barrier to people choosing buses over cars (or even taxis).

The committee acknowledged the challenge of funding availability and how difficult it would be to achieve the number 1 item on the list of at least one service per rural area to connect to a hub. Our criticism of this citizen panel has always been the implied acceptance of underfunding of bus services. Reliability will be key to increasing ridership, but this is also an issue for funding of local government and public services in general, and needs to be addressed at both local and national levels.

Emilia Melville  
Reclaim our Buses campaign and WESTACT

## Statement 5 – Georgia Statham

Good Afternoon,

My name's Georgia and I'm a final year medical student living, studying and soon to be working as a Doctor in Bristol and the South West. I'm also a member of an organisation called MedAct – a charity campaigning as "health workers for health justice". We have previously spoken at WECA meetings urging you as our representatives to find solutions to the current bus network which is failing local people everyday. I am here on behalf of our organisation to once again ask you to take this issue seriously, and to take the opportunity to help Bristol and the South West become a happier and healthier place by investigating franchising the bus network.

We've presented to you before the shocking statistics that show how improving public transport is an urgent and serious healthcare issue, worsening healthcare inequalities and damaging the lives of young people. The 2019 report from the Docklands Youth Centre in St Paul's stated the shameful reality that "47% of our young people suffer with asthma", compared with a national average of around 10%. Furthermore on high pollution days in Bristol there are 4 more cardiac arrests, 9 more admission for stroke and 12 more children attend with asthma symptoms, of which 5 will have to stay in hospital. But poor public transport doesn't just result in more people admitted to hospital; it's also contributing to devastating levels of social isolation and a loneliness epidemic with people stranded, unable to move across the city and access essential services.

I moved to Bristol 5 years ago from London and have always been disappointed that this famously environmentally conscious city has such terrible public transport. Without a car I rely exclusively on it which means joining many others sat at bus stops waiting for buses that never come, late to work or placement or desperate to go home at the end of long working days. You regularly meet patients across the city who are forced to spend what amounts to hundreds of pounds every month on taxis to get to regular appointments too, because bus services are simply non-existent in their area.

The frustration and anger people feel was shockingly evident when we held a Transport Clinic in Kingswood on 10th February. We spoke to local residents about their experiences and despite knowing it was an issue that people care about, I was genuinely taken aback by the almost universal anger at its failings – taking buses is seen as a 'nightmare!' with residents left with 'no alternatives to the car'. Buses are seen as unreliable, expensive and constantly being cut. Damien Egan, the Labour candidate who won the byelection in Kingswood agrees that change is needed – saying that Labour will reform our broken bus system and hand power and control over services to local communities".

The current bus network is a startling failure of this region, but a failure that thankfully has a clear solution. Franchising could improve services by increasing democratic control over prices and routes, ultimately improving the health of citizens by reducing air pollution, decreasing vehicle collisions, improving access to essential services, and reducing isolation. Franchised public transport networks in London, Manchester and soon to be Liverpool show that franchising is a real and exciting alternative that can make a significant and tangible improvement to people's health and happiness now and in the future. I urge you to not waste anymore time, and enact change now to repair this region's failing public transport network.

Thank you,

Georgia Statham

## Statement 6 – Brendan Taylor & Ian Beckey

We would like the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority with Council Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol city council Western Gateway Transport Board chair and Mayor Dan Norris west of England mayoral combined transport Authority,  
The loss of Bus services 3 Bristol city Broadmead shopping centre Bristol city centre, College Green, park street Clifton Down station, Downs sea Mills Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock Severnside Lawrence weston Henbury and cribbs causeway bus station via Asda .  
This our life line to work school College Shopping centres and cribbs causeway shopping centre and leasure facilities.

Why has Mayor Dan Norris Public transport Network team not negotiated a replacement support bus services as we believe the bus is funded by bus service improvement plan money

With service 4 Bristol Broadmead shopping centre, city centre, Bristol Clifton Down station, Downs Shirehampton to Henbury and cribbs causeway bus station,

Whist we got the new service 41 Kingwood Town centre, st George, Lawrence hill Station, oid market Street Bond Street Bristol city centre, Harbourside, Hotwells, Portway sea Mills Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock Severnside it not a replacement for service 3 ,  
And service 9 Bristlington park and ride, Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol cabot circus Bristol city centre Harbourside, Hotwells sea Mills near the station, Shirehampton Station and Portway park and ride site.

Stagecoach west

The Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol Lawrence hill Bristol Stapleton Road Montpellier railway station, Redland Clifton Down station sea Mills Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock St Andrews Road seven Beach,

Theses first group plc bus and First group plc Great Western Railway company limited services

Do not replace services 3 which finishes on 7th April 2024 .

Without any public consultation by First group plc Wales and West buses Division or the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan area .

We understand the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority is in special measures by the Department for transport and levelling up,

We also have no night bus service

From Bristol city centre Bristol to sea Mills Shirehampton Avonmouth Dock Severnside Lawrence weston Henbury cribbs causeway bus station like other Parts of the city Region.

And when the Metro west railway service service Bristol Temple meads station, Bristol Lawrence hill Bristol Stapleton Road, montpellier Clifton Down station sea Mills Shirehampton Portway park and ride site Avonmouth Dock St Andrews Road seven Beach, No accessible railway replacement bus services provide by First group plc Great Western Railway company and First Group buses or stagecoach west bus

Can this be looked at urgently.

But can this issue please urgently be raise by Bristol city council to Mayor Dan Norris,

Thanks you

Brendon Taylor Bristol disability equalities forum

Ian Beckey living Easton