

**CABINET – 31 January 2024  
PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

<b>1. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b>	<b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28</b></p> <p>In this year budget proposals what budget has been allocated for Gloucester Transport hub to maintain the Doors safely for the travelling public so passengers can not run into moving buses and coaches and is very dangerous as passengers run from the rest of the public transport interchanges at Railway station for buses and coaches in the Transport hub the doors also need repairing to the city centre and Railway station, Including the loop system.</p>	<p>The Gloucester Transport Hub is a Gloucester City Council site and leased to Stagecoach.</p>
<b>2. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b>	<b>Respondent's name: Cllr Cllr Philip Robinson</b>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28</b></p> <p>Is a major budget to repair and repaint the roof of the Transport hub and re paint and clean the ceilings And cctv cameras system, and paint out graffiti on the walls and repairing and maintenance of toilets including disabled toilets with new WiFi connected charging points.</p>	<p>The Gloucester Transport Hub is a Gloucester City Council site and leased to Stagecoach.</p>

<p><b>3. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Item 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28</b></p> <p>What revenue income has the council set for rental of the Cafe and Kiosk being reopened and lease to Transport catering company,</p>	<p>The Gloucester Transport Hub is a Gloucester City Council site and leased to Stagecoach.</p>
<p><b>4. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Item 5: Bus Improvement Scrutiny Task Group</b></p> <p>what discussion are taking with Gloucestershire county council as Transport Authority about the maintenance of the Real-time passengers information for Buses coaches and restoration of the Railway time Real-time information systems, and bus information displays at Gloucester central Railway station, And possible sale of Gloucester Transport hub .</p>	<p>As the Transport Authority, Gloucestershire County Council is responsible for the maintenance of all bus service real time information. We also manage the bus real time information displays at the Gloucester Transport Hub.</p> <p>The Real Time Passenger Information systems under the Council's remit are regularly checked and maintained however if particular problems are identified then please do report these to our Integrated Transport Unit.</p> <p>The railway station is owned by Network Rail and operated by Great Western Railway, so the County Council does not manage any real time information on this site.</p>
<p><b>5. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>

**Agenda Item 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28**

Transport budget to Gloucestershire county council as Transport Authority ,  
What provision is being made in budget to maintain bus shelters and infrastructure ie bus stops shelters Real-time information and timetable displays including rail bus interchange information at Cheltenham spa station and Gloucester Transport hub,  
Arle Court park and ride and New Transport hub for buses and coaches services,

Including working in Partnership with City Borough and District Councils

At Stroud bus and coach station merry walk,  
Nailsworth bus and coach station  
Cheltenham spa Royal Well bus and coach,  
Lydney bus and coach station  
Cinderford bus station,  
Cirencester Beeches car park  
National express coaches limited,  
Cirencester Town centre,  
Tewkesbury Town centre.

Morton in marsh Bus station,

In this year's budget and Gloucestershire bus service improvement plan,

And South Gloucestershire county council and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority

On vital bus services like

The proposed 2024/25 budget includes many lines for public transport, these include:

- £315k for bus shelters
- £1.2m for interchange hubs

The Integrated Transport Unit has a fixed annual budget of £160k for the Gloucestershire Bus Service real time information system.

Discussions are on-going with South Gloucestershire to agree an extension to the 84/85, including a financial contribution towards the service from Gloucestershire County Council.

<p>Service 84 85 Wootton under Edge Charfield, Warwick, chipping Sodbury Yate bus station and Yate railway station and park and ride site,</p>	
<p><b>6. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Agenda item 5: Bus Improvement Scrutiny Task Group</b></p> <p>As part of the bus improvement plan  What discussion has Gloucester City council Stroud District Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Tewkesbury borough council cotswolds District Council South Gloucestershire county council and the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority with Gloucestershire county council the Transport Authority over  A bus service Advisory Board and  Setting of passengers groups user panel as required by the Department for transport  Including bus services operators at the hub Stagecoach west, / megabus Scottish City link go ahead group Oxford bus company formally Pulham coaches,  National express coaches limited  Applegate coaches cotswolds Green  Marchants coaches ,Bennett coaches Swinbrook coaches  Newport Transport and other bus operators,  And passenger groups,</p>	<p>Gloucestershire County Council has set up a Gloucestershire Bus Board and Bus Forum comprising all of Gloucestershire's bus operators. We are currently reviewing our Bus Service Improvement Plan and will consult with key stakeholders such as the bus operators and districts in the coming month. It is also planned to set up a passenger forum in due course to feed into the work of the Bus Board.</p> <p>At a regional level, Gloucestershire County Council officers regularly engage with neighbouring authorities on strategic issues and Gloucestershire is part of the Western Gateway Subnational Transport Board which has recently developed a coach strategy to address longer distance coach services.</p> <p>The Enhanced Partnership Forum will be designed to accommodate a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Passenger groups will be a key component of this process. More information will be available in the next few weeks with specific details of the Forum and passenger groups.</p>
<p><b>7. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Agenda item 5: Bus Improvement Scrutiny Task Group</b></p>	

<p>The budget funding for supported bus service and funding through the bus service improvement plan.  New to be submitted to the Department for Transport for 2024 2025 financial year By 12 th June 2024  Including discussion with Passengers groups bus coach and railway operators, Gloucestershire police and the British Transport police and the Police and crime commissioner, On community safety issues on the public transport Network, Access issues with passengers with reduced mobility and partly sighted, Stakeholders, Intergrated with rail coach and Demand responsive bus services, Interchanges and bus and coach station improvements bus lanes and priority measures  What work and consultation being carried off on this submission as part of the budget</p>	<p>GCC funds its own subsidy budget for bus services, in 2023/24 this is projected to be £5.1m. With the addition of the DfT’s BSIP+ funding, this figure will rise to around £7m in 2024/25.</p> <p>New guidance to local authorities and bus operators regarding Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIPs) was published by Government in late January. GCC is in the process of reviewing its BSIP and this new guidance with a view to consult keys stakeholders in line with the guidance in spring 2024. We would then aim to submit a revised BISP to Government in line with the June 2024 deadline. It is our understanding that any future BSIP + funding will be dependent on the submission of a 2024 BSIP.</p> <p>The Enhanced Partnership Forum will be designed to accommodate a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Passenger groups will be a key component of this process.</p>
<p><b>8. Questioner’s name: David Redgewell</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent’s name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28</b></p> <p>What provision in the Budget towards Railway prodject in the County  With Western Gateway Transport Board Department for transport funding and First group plc Great Western Railway company,</p>	<p>GCC is a member of the Western Gateway Sub National Transport Body</p> <p>GCC is working with GWR on enhancements to Gloucester train station including enhancements to the forecourt and underpass.  The County Council has worked with GWR on enhancements to Cheltenham train station.</p>

<p>le Lifts at Cheltenham spa station Or Progress on stonehouse Bristol Road or Charfield station, for Wotton under Edge jointly with South Gloucestershire county council</p>	<p>The installation of lifts at Cheltenham station is funded through the Access for All scheme and will be carried out by Network Rail.</p> <p>The Strategic Outline Business Case for Stonehouse Bristol Road was submitted to the Department for Transport in September 2022. A decision on whether this will progress to the next stage is awaited.</p> <p>Regular meetings are held with South Gloucestershire Council officers and members to discuss cross border issues including rail and the planned new station at Charfield.</p>
<p><b>9. Questioner's name: Janet Young</b></p>	<p><b>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>Agenda item 5: Bus Improvement Scrutiny Task Group</b></p> <p>BACKGROUND The 84 and 85, Wotton to Yate bus service connects 11 communities on the 32 mile round trip. It is used by workers, students, patients, tourists, shoppers. It provides opportunity for affordable shopping, education, employment, access to health services, and connects into national road and rail links. There is no alternative bus service if the 84/85 is removed. The bus service joins Wotton (Gloucestershire) with Yate (South Gloucestershire).</p> <p>Demand Responsive Transport such as the Robin and the WESTlink have been shown elsewhere to be</p>	<p>The Robin is not disproportionately costly in the context of rural bus services. It provides excellent value for money compared to traditional timetabled rural bus services and offers a far greater service provision.</p> <p>Customer feedback from Robin passengers has been very good, and there are no specific accessibility (or IT user) issues that have been raised with us in relation to passengers being unable to access or use Robin service. Access to the services is also supported by a local call centre (via Lydney Dial-a-Ride) for customers who might feel less confident with IT and App usage.</p>

disproportionately costly. We are also hearing testimony that the nature of their dynamic/changing routes and app based interface makes them less accessible for some of our community when compared to a timetabled, predictable, pay as you travel service.

DRT will not provide people with an arrive by time that is crucial for many passengers.

The significant evidence we shared with Gloucestershire county councillor and provided to WECA (main funder) in March 2023 supports our argument for Subsidised Funding of the 84/5 bus service.

#### QUESTION

How are Gloucestershire County Council working with WECA to support the continuation of the 84/85 routes? The answer should cover both governance and funding aspects, as knowing if this service something that you will look to continue to fund, given the benefits the service provides to both communities and the its alignment with the task force report (para 7.3 and others) is of vital interest to the support group.

Also there is an offer here . Is there anything specifically that the Save the Wotton to Yate bus group can provide you to help achieve this?

With regard to the route itself, we are working with South Gloucestershire and WECA to secure an extension to the 84/85 service. The 84/85 isn't a GCC contract but we do contribute financially to ensure residents retain access to the service.

At this stage there is nothing specific we need to ask of the community group, apart from your continued support in using this bus service.