

**CABINET –27 March 2024
PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

<p>1. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>With the welcome news the Mark Harper MP, Secretary of State for Transport and Forest of Dean has awarded for Zebra bus bid ,in Gloucestershire, of £1,500,000 To stagecoach west , Go ahead group Oxford bus company, Pulham coaches, Lydney community Transport,</p> <p>What discussions are taking place with Cheltenham Borough Council to improve the passenger experience in Royal Well bus and coach station and for service x94 94 99 to serve the bus and coach station,</p> <p>Gloucester Transport hub facilities include intergrated Transport information and passenger information real-time and reopening the café.</p> <p>And improvement to public waiting shelter and real-time information systems passenger safe along theses Transport corridors</p> <p>Tewkesbury Town centre, Tewkesbury and Ashchurch station, including more bus lanes and priority measures on Gloucester to Cheltenham bus corridor.</p>	<p>GCC is undertaking a study into bus routing and stopping arrangements in Cheltenham. In addition, GCC has ringfenced budget for investment in bus priority measures and interchange hubs.</p> <p>Investment in bus service infrastructure across the county will include waiting facilities, lighting, service information and other features that will make using the bus more attractive to passengers.</p> <p>We will also be looking to the private sector to invest in our public transport infrastructure. In 2024/25 we will be going to the market to procure a long term bus shelter contract looking for a company to provide and maintain bus shelters in return for rights to advertise on shelters.</p>
<p>2. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>

<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>With Gloucester City services on stagecoach west service 1 Gloucester to Matson and Service 12 Gloucester city centre to Quedgeley, What is the level of clean air improvement to be provided in Gloucester in terms: 8 tonnes Nox 15 845 tons of carbon?</p>	<p>Electric buses significantly reduce harmful pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NOx). Routes 1 and 2 have specifically been included in the ZEBRA bid as they go through an Air Quality Management Area in Barton & Tredworth.</p> <p>The total amount of NOx savings was calculated by operator, not by bus route, so whilst there will be improvements in air quality in Gloucester we do not have figures for individual routes at the current time.</p>
<p>3. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>What legal agreement are in place to protect the Residents of Gloucestershire that stagecoach Group and the go ahead group plc Oxford bus company will keep the buses in Gloucestershire?</p> <p>And if the Bus Depot at Cheltenham spa 13 charging points or Stagecoach west or Go head Oxford bus company Burton on the water 16 charging points are relocated so that bus infrastructure is protected?</p> <p>Will the buses be branded in Gloucestershire County Council branding and Department for Transport logo as per money spent on Bus services improvement plans?</p>	<p>Bus operators are obliged by the ZEBRA fund conditions to continue to operate the ZEBs purchased under the ZEBRA scheme within Gloucestershire for a minimum of five years. GCC officers will ensure that the funding agreement to be signed with the bus operators reflects this obligation.</p> <p>The charging infrastructure will be installed at specific bus depots with the aim to serve the vehicles purchased through the ZEBRA fund. Therefore, should bus operators lose access to the charging infrastructure, they would have to find a different way to operate the ZEBs in Gloucestershire for the agreed time period.</p> <p>The DfT is still to provide GCC with guidance on branding.</p>

<p>4. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>With Western Gateway Transport Board and Peninsula Transport Board study for charging points for coaches . And Bourton on water being a major visit attraction and coaching centre in South west England and the cotswolds, is the issue of enough coach charging points and coach parking facilities being addressed by Gloucestershire county council public transport unit, and the go ahead group?</p>	<p>Go Ahead are proposing to install 16 chargers at their Bourton depot providing capacity for up to 29 (maximum) ZEBs, that's up to 14 in addition to the 15 ZEB it is planning to purchase as part of the ZEBRA funding.</p> <p>In terms of visiting coaches, it is still unclear which direction the coach industry will adopt for the move zero emission with hydrogen power still considered the favourite option, adding opportunity charging for coaches at this time could be a false investment but we do need to be ready if required so the Arle Court Transport Hub has been built to be able to add such facilities in the future.</p>
<p>5. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>Arles court interchange coach station and park and ride</p> <p>We welcome the provision of a cafe and passenger facilities. Will the cafe opening hours allow for opening on Mon to Friday Evening weekend and Sundays?</p> <p>As the Gloucester Transport hub to Cheltenham spa x94 94 is 24 7 service and if National Express coaches limited main line coaches, Megabus Scottish City link coaches and Flixbus coaches network call the issue of the Cafe opening hours need to be addressed.</p>	<p>The Café is intended to be let on a commercial basis with a hope that it will eventually provide an income source to help fund the operational costs of the hub. A successful provider will be encouraged to ensure that their operating hours meet the needs of any demand.</p> <p>The operating hours of the hub will initially be the same as current, 0700 – 1900 Monday to Saturday, however it is an aspiration to expand hours and days of operation as demand grows. GCC have engaged with national coach operators to utilise the hub with very favourable feedback.</p>

<p>And level of local bus services that the council and Transport Authority reroute via the Transport hub , Bristol bus and coach station, Birmingham coach station, London victoria and Gloucester Transport hub bus station catering facilities open early and close in the Evening.</p> <p>What is the operating hours proposed at Arles court coach station park and ride and interchange? Have discussions taken place with Public transport operators?</p>	
<p>6. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>Junction 10 m5 bus priority is welcomed For Cheltenham spa to Tewkesbury bus services. What other bus service improvement are planned? Including bus lanes on this import public transport corridor to Tewkesbury and Ashchurch for Tewkesbury railway station. Hope in the future a bus service from Tewkesbury to Worcester crown point bus and coach station via Upton seven again.</p>	<p>GCC has allocated a budget of £2.6 million for bus priority improvements across Gloucestershire. Exact locations are still to be identified.</p> <p>It is also expected that the provision along the A4019 associated with M5 Junction 10 will be further extended as part of transport mitigations to be provided by developments arising from the North-West Cheltenham strategic allocation.</p>
<p>7. Questioner's name: David Redgewell</p>	<p>Respondent's name: Cllr Philip Robinson</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6: Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Funding Application</p> <p>What plans does Gloucestershire County Council have to call a bus service users Forum to discuss BIS improvement plan and 12th June 2024</p>	<p>GCC is keen to introduce a bus service user forum before the end of 2024.</p>

Submission to the Department for transport?	
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