

Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 28th June 1400 to 1600.

Location: Virtual – Teams meeting

1	Welcome, apologies and introductions – Allan Creedy	14.00
2	Governance and election of Chair and Vice Chair – Allan Creedy	14.05
3	Minutes and actions from the previous meeting - Chair (See Appendix 1 below, pg.3)	14.15
4	Public Participation - Chair (Paper circulated separately to Board members) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions or Representations from members of the public in line with the Board's Public Participation Scheme. 	14.20
5	Route Investment Strategy and Strategic Road Network Initial Report consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Highways – Alice Darley 	14.25
6	Updates from Associate Members – in addition to written updates, verbal updates from those attending where relevant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfT – David Glinos • Network Rail – Matt Haywood 	14.55
7	Work Programme and Financial Update – James White <u>Paper A</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach Strategy – James White <u>Paper B</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Fuels for Freight – James White Presentation - Matt Smith (ATKINS) • Carbon tool – Ola Hussein 	15.05
8	Strategic Transport Plan Update – James White <u>Paper C</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and Opportunities • Revised Timeframe 	15.40
9	Programme, Financial update and Forward decision plan – James White <u>Papers D and E</u>	15.45
10	AoB (to be previously advised to Allan Creedy, please (westerngateway_stb@westofengland-ca.gov.uk))	15.55

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 27th September 2023 – Time: 1400-1600

Location: TBC

Actions & Decisions	Allocated to	Target Date:	Update
No actions recorded			

APPENDIX 1 - Draft Minutes & Actions of last meeting:**Tuesday 28th February 2023, 14:00 to 16:00.****Location: County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JQ**

Attendees:	
Name	Organisation
<i>Cllr David Gray</i>	<i>Gloucestershire County Council, Vice Chair</i>
<i>Cllr Don Alexander</i>	<i>Bristol City Council</i>
<i>Cllr Steve Pearce</i>	<i>Bristol City Council</i>
<i>Cllr Mike Greene</i>	<i>Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP), Chair</i>
<i>Cllr Stephen Reade</i>	<i>South Gloucestershire Council</i>
<i>Cllr Ray Bryan</i>	<i>Dorset Council</i>
<i>Cllr Caroline Thomas</i>	<i>Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>Allan Creedy</i>	<i>Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>Louise McBride</i>	<i>West of England Combined Authority</i>
<i>Andrew Whitehead</i>	<i>South Gloucestershire Council</i>
<i>David Land</i>	<i>Gloucestershire County Council</i>
<i>Pam Turton</i>	<i>Bath and North East Somerset Council</i>
<i>Ewan Wilson</i>	<i>Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP)</i>
<i>James White</i>	<i>West of England Combined Authority</i>
<i>Julian McLaughlin</i>	<i>Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole</i>
<i>Guido Meloni</i>	<i>West of England Combined Authority</i>
<i>Arina Salhotra</i>	<i>Sphere Marketing</i>
<i>Michaela Bushell</i>	<i>Sphere Marketing</i>
<i>Alice Darley</i>	<i>National Highways</i>
<i>Krystyna Pitt</i>	<i>West of England Combined Authority, minutes</i>
<i>Matt Haywood</i>	<i>Network Rail</i>
<i>David Glinos</i>	<i>Department for Transport</i>
<i>Cllr Simon Gibson</i>	<i>Dorset Council</i>
<i>Cllr Manda Rigby</i>	<i>Bath and North East Somerset Council</i>
<i>Andrew Davies</i>	<i>Bristol City Council</i>
<i>Jack Wiltshire</i>	<i>Dorset Council</i>
<i>Kate Baldwin</i>	<i>Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>Kingsley Hampton</i>	<i>Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>Wayne Sayers</i>	<i>Dorset Council</i>
Apologies were received from:	
<i>Mayor Dan Norris</i>	<i>West of England Combined Authority</i>
<i>Mike O'Dowd Jones</i>	<i>Somerset Council</i>
<i>Colin Chick</i>	<i>Gloucestershire County Council</i>
<i>Sam Howell</i>	<i>Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>Cllr Sarah Warren</i>	<i>Bath and North East Somerset Council</i>
<i>Sophie Broadfield</i>	<i>Bath and North East Somerset Council</i>

<i>Cllr Andrea Davies</i>	<i>Devon Council</i>
<i>Ann Addison</i>	<i>Bristol City Council</i>
<i>Sophie Broadfield</i>	<i>Bath and North East Somerset Council</i>
<i>John Smith</i>	<i>Bristol City Council</i>
<i>Cllr Steve Hogg</i>	<i>North Somerset Council</i>

Actions & Decisions	Allocated to	Target Date:
No actions recorded		

Item No	Notes / Actions
1	<p>Introductions – Chair</p> <p>Apologies from Cllr Warren, Cllr Hogg</p> <p>Board members introduced themselves.</p>
2	<p>Minutes and actions from the previous meeting – Chair</p> <p>Cllr Greene requested that the board will receive an update on the recruitment situation later in the paper, and noted that alternative fuels will be addressed in item 5.</p> <p>GM updated the board on the current position with resourcing noting that there are three positions. The Transport Officer has now been selected and they will be joining us in April. The Senior Transport Officer post has now been advertised. The Lead Officer role has not yet gone out to advert but we are hoping that this will go out in the next week or two.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that we are keen that the Lead Officer role is filled as soon as possible so that we are able to compete more substantially on the national stage and have that voice from the Western Gateway.</p> <p>Minutes approved.</p>
3	<p>Public Participation– Chair</p> <p>No public questions received</p>
4	<p>Updates from Associate Members – in addition to written updates, verbal updates from those attending where relevant.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked the associate members for their support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfT – David Glinos <p>DG thanked Cllr Greene. DG gave an update from DfT highlighting some of the main points of the paper as submitted.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked DG. Cllr Greene felt that the £2 bus fare cap was not being as promoted as he would've hoped. This is a fantastic experiment to see whether reducing bus fares could lead to a significant long term shift to the mode of travel. He asked how this has been advertised across the country and whether there will be guidance from the DfT to maximise the next four months.</p> <p>DG responded that he is not aware of what comms is being undertaken on this and will take it away to find out exactly what is being done. He added that he is keen to hear experiences from the other board members.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Bryan had concerns over the recent media coverage of reduced passenger services in BCP and other councils. He suggested that had this announcement come out earlier, we would've been able to deal with this better as we have to be cautious of how we answer the media. He added that timing is essential and a strong comms message going out with the announcement would've been useful.</p> <p>Cllr Reade thanked DG and noted that the extension is well worth it. Within South Gloucestershire and the WECA area, we have the introduction of DRT but we still do not have through ticketing which results in multiple fares. This is something to bear in mind.</p> <p>Cllr Gray confirmed that he has seen and had feedback on the £2 fare. He noted that people are aware of it and the local operator stagecoach have been advertising it and the extension is welcomed. The extension will encourage more people to use the buses, however there have been problems with his local operator due to lost routes, lack of availability of drivers and other commercial decisions. If the scheme is successful in getting more people to use the bus then that would be a good thing and he is hopeful of this positive effect.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted his concerns over the scheme not being maximised.</p> <p>DG noted that with regards to comms, central Government has a part to play, but operators are key. Local authorities also have a part to play with communicating it within their own regions.</p> <p>Cllr Greene suggested that more guidance to the local authorities would've helped with regards to comms. Something that works in one region, may also work in another so guidance on best practice would be useful.</p> <p>DG noted that this scheme is running until the end of June and so there is still time to improve on the comms output.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that it would be the role of STBs in forming centres of excellence to assist the local authorities and asked for more guidance on the function of centres of excellence and its operations.</p> <p>DG confirmed that his understanding is for the STBs to be a centre of excellence for the local authorities. This will be different for each STB and where it is in its journey and the key themes. Western Gateway is very much the lead on the coach and strategic cycling studies. He noted that Western Gateway STB could be the centre of excellence for local authorities to come to the STB to help them implement the policy more locally.</p> <p>Cllr Greene clarified that this will be for our own local authorities and asked whether the resource would be used to provide specialist technical skills or for helping local authorities in the area formulate bids and schemes or both?</p> <p>DG confirmed that this would be both. Possible as outlined in the DfT BP guidance that there may be additional money to undertake this work. Keen for STBs to do this and have this role at the subnational scale.</p> <p>DG noted that the business case looks to be very good and the guidance from the DfT has been taken on board.</p> <p>Cllr Reade noted that there does not seem to have been much of a publicity campaign around the Junction M4/M5 piece of work as detailed in the paper.</p> <p>DG noted that National Highways will be able to pick this up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail – Matt Haywood <p>MH gave an update from Network Rail highlighting some of the main points of the paper as submitted.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked MH and noted the amount of work going on the WG STB area. From a regional point of view we have it right, and noted that the Heart of Wessex is a significant north-south route.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Reade thanked MH and asked whether there was any news on the Westerly junction pinch point?</p> <p>MH summarised this as having completed three strategic studies around Bristol that are good cases for increased connectivity but will come up against pinch points. Network Rail have used their funding to look into potential solutions. This is a big potential investment and will be expensive so we need to build wider case of benefits that will flow from this. This work is continuing on the Greater Bristol programme short, middle and long term improvements. Westerly is currently in the longer term due to affordability and the need to show a clear benefit to a funder. We have a good understanding of what we need to do but there is a point around affordability that probably means that it does not fit into the first flush of plans taking forward.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce thanked MH for the paper. He asked when will there be boots on the ground at Portishead and any indication of where we might get answers to RYR bids?</p> <p>MH confirmed that they are awaiting the decisions from the RYR prog team at DfT and noted that it has been lengthy getting decisions out. Regarding Portishead, there has been good progress and the development consent order has been approved and all is now in train for the project to complete. The current anticipated date is 2026 and key works contractors are now being contracted and it is going as well as we can hope.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce confirmed that he would be interested for any updates.</p> <p>DG confirmed that Portishead is due to start construction by end of 2024 with services up and running in 2026.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce thanked DG.</p> <p>Cllr Greene asked re improvements at Poole high street level crossing, which is the third most dangerous crossing in the country which means that there is a strict limit on the number of trains. Two schemes are relevant here: the Dorset metro and the Heart of Wessex line to Weymouth. Cllr Greene asked whether there has been any progress?</p> <p>MH confirmed that this has been highlighted as a key intervention in the Dorset study and will pick this up with colleagues as he is not up to date with the progress. MH will return to Cllr Greene on this specific issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Highways – Alice Darley <p>AD - gave an update from National Highways highlighting some of the main points of the paper as submitted.</p> <p>AD give a verbal update on M4 to Dorset Coast strategic study. The study is approaching completion and the team are meeting with the local Councillors and MPs to discuss conclusions and final recommendations due to go to ministers shortly. All the key road routes were considered, and also those not on the Strategic Road Network (SRN) were looked at to assess current performance, future demands, potential for enhancements, and environmental issues. There are several tricky locations along the different routes and there are some big decisions to be made. All factors are being considered including technical feasibility, affordability, environmental challenges and acceptability to stakeholders.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked AD in particular for the M4 to Dorset study, the way that the different options are weighed up, particularly with the environmental concerns.</p> <p>Cllr Reade asked if there was any news regarding the M4 junction 18A?</p> <p>AD confirmed that this is part of the RIS III and we are expecting the DfT to publish draft RIS in 2024 which is where we will get sight of this.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Bryan noted that he was disappointed to be excluded from the meeting yesterday. He noted that he has great difficulty in supporting what is being reported but will look forward to the final detail. In consultation with local MPs, he noted that they may have some trouble with what is being proposed so would like to discuss this with national highways in more detail. He would need some persuading to support this.</p> <p>Cllr Greene confirmed that he was at the meeting and suggested that there had been a mix up in the communication.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan emailed but had no response and was told that National Highways didn't want portfolio holders there.</p> <p>Cllr Greene confirmed that they will try to find out what happened there.</p>
5	<p>Work Programme and Financial Update – Guido Meloni</p> <p><u>Paper A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Fuels - James White <p>JW confirmed that following the issues raised at the last board meeting, we commissioned ATKINS to look at the potential role of rail, ports maritime, agriculture and energy supply. A key piece of work is looking at the network map and the potential locations for hydrogen and EV charging across the south-west. It was flagged up by this board and the Peninsula board that there were gaps in the network. Atkins are now looking at potential locations to serve our rural areas, with the report due back mid-March.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked JW and noted that one of the significant points was that the original report only considered the SRN so hopes the new report will look at the wider network.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan requested that we keep a conversation going with Southern Gas network, who subject to government decision are well advanced with their plans for hydrogen. Cllr Bryan believes that industry would all prefer to use hydrogen rather than electric so we need to make sure we link in as many views as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling – David Land <p>DL confirmed that following the last board, the programme team discussed with SOG how to make the cycling strategy work on several different priorities rather than a just the population and propensity to cycle themes. We have developed the idea of a thematic sift. The plan is to reanalyse 178 submitted routes to fit into 4 or 5 different themes with which to map and prioritise routes. These themes would be suitable for approaching different kinds of funding pots to make the most of future funding opportunities. Routes will be grouped under different headings and themes which are still to be confirmed. Examples of themes might be 'Rural routes to access points' for example, access to jobs, communities, services, 'Routes to different regions', 'National Highways based routes', 'Carbon reduction', 'Tourist friendly routes' and other potential themes. Primary data is required for each theme, and for this we have reinstated the previous consultants and expect that this work should be completed by end of March.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that the main concern last time was that this proposed to make good routes better rather than poor routes acceptable and asked is this being addressed through the sifting?</p> <p>DL confirmed that it is.</p> <p>Cllr Reade thanked DL for acknowledging the boards suggestion for making poor routes better. Wotton to Kingswood route is in the paper and you have our support for this at South Gloucestershire Council as an important cross boundary route.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach Strategy – David Land

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	<p>DL confirmed that there was a final stakeholder workshop to discuss the findings at the start of February. Aecom are completing edits to form the final coach strategy. Need feedback from other organisations, in particular National Highways and the Confederation of Passenger Transport. We see this as critical feedback and this is the only thing holding this up. Once we have this feedback, there will be a draft report. We have requested an executive summary which can be used as a stand alone document.</p> <p>AD noted that she has only just received the copies to comment on and she has a high level response, however she was not aware of the data referenced at the workshop so will chase this.</p> <p>Cllr Greene asked whether there is anything any board member can do to help contact the Confederation of Passenger Transport?</p> <p>DL asked whether anyone had any contacts at the CPT as they have been difficult to contact, although in the workshops they offered feedback so he hopes to receive that.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan added that he presented to the Transport Select Committee recently who requested to give them as much detail from the south west gateway to link into their work. They are looking in depth at the rural position for passenger transport.</p> <p>Cllr Greene suggested that we share our work at the earliest opportunity. He asked DL, whether in the absence of a full CPT response, is there an alternative?</p> <p>DL replied that this is a challenge as they are a consumer voice so it is a question of keep asking?</p> <p>Cllr Greene suggested to ask SOG, and TOG to see if they are able to move this on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freight – Ewan Wilson <p>EW confirmed that there has been a lot of activity with freight and having recently held the third round of the Freight Forum sub-groups. They were all very well attended with a strong contribution from the aviation sector, road haulage and the rail sector however a slight lack of participation from the ports. There has been good information sharing across the groups and continued interest. There has been a lot of activity on a number of interventions including one around load matching. EW highlighted the importance of Freight with regards to the STB objectives. He noted that we have started working with Haulage Exchange on a load matching trial for HGVs with a great deal of interest from the RHA. The initiative aims to encourage multiple hauliers to join the service with a view to reducing unnecessary CO2 emissions. The strategy identified a huge amount of empty running, which is disproportionately high in the south west. This offers levelling up benefits as well as decarbonisation and economic benefits.</p> <p>EW continued with rail freight and emphasised the importance of rail freight within the strategy. There are nine interventions for freight and two specifically for rail freight sites. One freight train can take up to fifty HGVs off the road and the south west as a region does not move as much freight by rail compared to the national average. Thirteen south west local authorities were contacted asking for feedback on potential rail freight sites in their area and opportunities for preserving sites within their individual local transport plans (LTPs) as well as looking for feedback for potential sites. Information also requested from local authorities on bridge strikes. This is again a disproportionately big issue in the south west and we are hoping to get feedback on this to be able to develop our understanding on how this is impacting the freight network in the south west. In addition, members of the group, in particular the Road Haulage Association and their membership were interested in the M4 to Dorset coast study.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan thanked and congratulated EW and the officers for the great work that they are doing.</p> <p>Cllr Greene agreed and echoed the comment from Cllr Bryan.</p> <p>GM confirmed that the updates cover the key workstreams. There has also been progress on EV charging led by Dorset and the rail programme. With regards to the finances, overspend is in line with the</p>

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	<p>last report. There are areas of underspend, and it is worth noting that we are using the budgets to the end of financial year. New funding for the new financial year in line with the business plan.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Noted the contents of the programme, update report. II. On the STP: approved the Issues and Options; delegate to Programme Officers Group to finalise the issues and options paper and approve engagement report; approve list of key stakeholders. Subject to approval from the Chair and Vice Chair III. Business Plan: approve the draft business plan; delegate to Programme Officers Group the completion of the final version of the business plan.
6	<p>Strategic Transport Plan Update – James White</p> <p><u>Paper C</u></p> <p>Issues and Options</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that there have been significant delays to the paper for various reasons.</p> <p>JW spoke to the slides.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that the use of the word ‘options’ suggests that there may only be one option rather than the consideration of a mixture of those options available and so he proposed that we rename this.</p> <p>EW suggested using ‘Issues and Opportunities’.</p> <p>Cllr Reade added that to call it priorities also suggests choosing between one or another and agreed that ‘opportunities’ would be better.</p> <p>Cllr Greene suggested that as the options are listed in the appendix as 1-6 and perhaps this also suggests a level of hierarchy where perhaps it could be displayed in a way that doesn’t suggest any ranking. Cllr Greene asked members if they were content with this revised listing system?</p> <p>The board agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that we are considerably behind in reaching an adopted Strategic Transport Plan and behind other STBs, although they were mostly formed before us. He noted that we are expecting the LTP guidance form the DfT but this shouldn’t now affect us. Cllr Greene identified that there is a question over whether we should be able to go out for engagement during the pre-election period. He felt that there was no reason to delay as there was nothing in the paper that would cause any offence. It is for the stakeholders to identify their priorities and the results will not be back or revealed until after the elections.</p> <p>Cllr Rigby noted that during the pre-election period, she will not be able to engage with any work on this, and it will all be done by officers. Without member input it may not get the attention it deserves.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander supports Cllr Greene’s view and doesn’t think we can delay on this.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted Cllr Rigby’s point, and added that all members will have the opportunity to get involved, but not promote the paper. As a regional body, there will often be elections in our constituent authorities, but for work to be delayed during this time would limit the time we have. Cllr Greene also noted that there is nothing within this that might be controversial, perhaps when the results are revealed, but this will be June at the earliest and after the elections. If it is delayed, then we might be in a similar situation next spring with the draft STP.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Rigby noted that there have been issues in BaNES with engagement where Members have had to go out to encourage engagement. It may lead to quite an unbalanced engagement if one (or more) of the member authorities cannot get involved.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that BCP is also in the same situation, but he doesn't feel the same issue.</p> <p>Cllr Gray noted that this is a consultation to seek input and has nothing to do with campaigning or any political issue. It may put us in a good position for making decisions in a non-purdah timeline and the danger is that we then push decisions into a period where it would be impacted.</p> <p>Cllr Reade agreed and noted that his officers would promote this so is happy to continue with the engagement.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that there seems to be a majority view on this and unless anyone else has a different view, then collectively we are happy to go ahead with option 2.</p> <p>AD suggested in terms of content there seemed to be a key opportunity that she felt was missing; One around multimodal journeys, specifically around enabling people to change modes of transport during their journey.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that this could be a very useful intervention.</p> <p>JW noted that this may already be contained within the other opportunities already, but it could be highlighted as part of those options or as a stand alone option. JW agreed that we need to make more of that multimodal theme.</p> <p>Cllr Greene added that while it's not separated from the other opportunities, it is about where the focus should be and one of the things that as a board we have been pushing is how all the modes of transport interlink. This is a good option to include.</p> <p>Cllr Reade agreed and added that he thinks it does deserve a line on its own even if the detail points to the other options.</p> <p>Cllr Thomas agreed to the introduction of the additional option, but wondered about the amount of input required and so asked for clarification for the content to be signed off and suggested that it can't just be a matter for the Chair and Vice Chair.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that it will require an extra paragraph, and before the Chair and Vice Chair sign it off, that it goes to the board for comments.</p> <p>Cllr Thomas thanked Cllr Greene for clarification.</p> <p>Cllr Reade suggested that a timeframe for responses is included.</p> <p>Cllr Greene agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan asked whether Cllr Greene will be in a position to sign the document due to him leaving his post?</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that he will be in a position to sign this off ahead of March.</p> <p>Cllr Greene moved the proposal and Cllr Gray seconded.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Approved the Issues & Option paper as set out in Appendix One for engagement with key stakeholders. Additional version to be sent to all members of the board for feedback. II. Not approve engagement starting in March 2023 and extending into the pre-election period. OR

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	<p>III. Approved engagement starting in May 2023 with the revised programme as set out in section 3.5.</p> <p>IV. Approved the list of key stakeholders as set out in Appendix Two.</p> <p>V. Delegate producing the final version of the Issues & Option paper to the Programme Team in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.</p>
7	<p>Business Plan – James White</p> <p><u>Paper D</u></p> <p>JW spoke to the slides.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that there is a wide spread of spend across the programme. He added that this is the budget, but it is only the bottom line that is fixed, and it is possible for money to be moved across from one line to another through the year. We can accept that the figures for 2024/25 are outline figures.</p> <p>Cllr Reade noted that there isn't a line for reserve.</p> <p>JW confirmed that there is a small amount for contingency but this flows through everything that we do.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that the staffing line has a significant increase due to employing our Lead Officer.</p> <p>Cllr Greene moved the proposal. The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Approve the Business Plan for 2023/24 to 2024/25 as set out in Appendix One for submission to the Department for Transport. II. Delegate producing the final public facing version of the Business Plan to the Programme Team in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.
8	<p>Forward decision plan – Guido Meloni</p> <p><u>Paper B</u></p> <p>Cllr Green noted that our current work plan means the next board meeting is scheduled for June. As there are some significant items coming forward over the next few weeks, and with two strategies delayed, it would be unfortunate to leave decisions for another 4 months. Cllr Greene proposed a further online meeting in April for this board. It would be a short meeting to look at the urgent items. Anything that is controversial would be deferred until after the elections to give the new board the opportunity to look at themselves.</p> <p>Cllr Rigby noted that she would not be allowed to attend a meeting representing the council, and can't see how we can have a meeting in the pre-election period.</p> <p>Cllr Greene stated that this is not the case in our authority. It will disrupt the work of multi authority organisations such as us.</p> <p>Cllr Rigby noted that as members she cannot represent the authority.</p> <p>Cllr Greene noted that he was not sure how we can get round this, but suggested to hear from other authorities on this.</p> <p>LMcB suggested that as the Combined Authority is the accountable body, we could take that question away and seek advice from our director of law specifically in relation to the meeting being held. We could return with his legal advice.</p> <p>Cllr Greene proposed to put the meeting in the diary but wait for the advice from secretariat and if any member is unable to attend in that period, then the meeting should be an informal one only. We will still go ahead with the meeting, but dependent on the combined authority's advice, it will be formal or informal.</p>

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	<p>Proposal agreed on that basis.</p> <p>GM explained that the next meeting will include the approval of revised cycling strategy, the coach strategy and the revised alternative fuels report.</p> <p>The Board</p> <p>I. Noted the contents of the Forward Decision Plan and advise the programme team of any issues or additional briefings required.</p>
9	<p>AoB (to be previously advised to Chair, please (mike.greene@bcpcouncil.gov.uk))</p> <p>JMcL noted that Jim Stewart, Chief Executive of Poole Harbour Commissioners, and the Chair of the Transport and Business forum make members aware that he is stepping down, and to thank Jim for all the efforts he has made.</p> <p>Cllr Greene added that he is a very fine contributor to the public and private sector and thanked Jim for his work with us.</p> <p>Cllr Greene thanked the board as it will potentially be the last formal meeting that he will attend. He thanked members and officers and commended the cross party working to find common ground with the STB. Western Gateway has an outstanding role to play going forward, bringing local authorities together and having a voice at a national level. He wished everyone well.</p> <p>Cllr Bryan thanked Cllr Greene for the work and reorganisation to bring in the Lead Members and included his personal thanks.</p>

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 27th September 2023 – Time: 1400-1600

Location: TBC