



Bristol Transport Board

Date/time	Monday 13 th November 2023 – 10-12:00
Location	Clayton Hotel, Bristol
Co-chairs	Cllr Don Alexander, Cabinet Member; Melanie Watson, Transport Focus
Attendees (members)	David Redgewell, Bus Users and Bristol Disability Equality Forum Trustee; Susan Carter, Bristol Walking Alliance; Gordon Richardson, Bristol’s Disability Equality Commission; Sean Walsh, Highways England; Zoe Bank Gross, Sustrans; Jacob Pryor, Board Support Officer; Francesca Barclay, One City; BCC; Rob Pymm, First Bus; Daniel Round, Network Rail;
Apologies	Adam Crowther, BCC; Carrie Chamberlain, H&W Community Partnership; Toby Wells, Bristol Cycling Campaign; Mark Hopwood, GWR; Shevaun Hunt, Unite the Unions; Mya Parker, Youth Council Representative; Belinda Nicholls, Bristol Community Transport; Christina Stokes, BOPF; Randall Rickabaugh, Enterprise Holdings; Neil Havill, Priority Express; Katy Taylor, Bristol Women’s Commission; Stewart Cundy, UHBW;
Observers	
Invitees	Ian Quaife, BOPF; Richard Cooper, Enterprise Holdings
ITEM	
1) Welcome from Co-Chairs (Melanie Watson, Transport Focus)	
The co-chairs thanked the Clayton Hotel for hosting the Transport Board and noted apologies.	
2) Actions from the previous meeting (Jacob Pryor, Board Support Officer)	
The Board Support Officer went through the actions from the previous meeting.	
3) Update from City Office (Francesca Barclay, City Office)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>City Gathering</u> The next city gathering will be taking place on 24th November 2023, from 9:00 – 12:00. Members can sign up via the Eventbrite Link. During the gathering, the board will have the opportunity to advocate for one of the transport goals to be chosen as a city priority. <p>A discussion was had around which goal, with members concluding that the following goal should be advocated for “Established local food and freight consolidation distribution hub</p>	

has reduced the need for HGVs to enter the city” as the introduction of distribution hubs could free up space for walking and cycling, and because multi-agency input into this goal could be valuable.

Action: City Office and OCTB Board Support Officer to put together some wording regarding this goal and share back with the board for approval ahead of City Gathering.

- Board Membership refresh

As per the board terms of reference, a membership review is due. Transport Board Co-Chairs, Board Support Officer and City Office to review expressions of interest, and alignment to One City Goals, and notify members by email.

Action:

If you wish to remain on the board

Expressions of interest should be sent to City Office by Friday 8th December, emphasising:

- Board attendance
- Active participation in projects and activities
- Championship of One City within individual networks and organisations
- Commitment to the collaborative nature of the One City Approach

If you wish to end your appointment

Please consider nominating a new organisation via the City Office by Friday 8th December

4) Member Updates

Bristol Walking Alliance

The alliance have an event taking place on 21st November at Watershed.

Action: invitation to be shared with City Partners.

Bristol Older Person’s Forum

- Ashton vale suffragettes contacted them. No buses to Ashton vale. Disabled and older people will be doing the 2 mile walk to discuss accessibility needs, as the whole estate is currently cut off and the railway tunnel has been blocked off.
- BOPF representative recently visited Portway station on behalf of the Accessible Toilet Network, and raised uncertainty regarding who has responsibility for ensuring the accessibility of toilets on site.

Action: Network Rail and BCC representatives to discuss the toilet issue at Portway St.

National Highways

The Road Investment Strategy is earmarked for publication by the end of the year. The focus will be on maintenance and renewal, although small improvements (not of national scale) may also be made. The strategy has themes around cycling, the environment and heritage and these themes will continue.

Action: SW will bring an update on Renewal work at February 2024 OCTB.

Bus Equalities Representative

Good news regarding the Government proposal to close national rail ticket offices being stopped and staff remaining on the network, especially in rural areas.

Network Rail

In relation to the above, over 1 million responses were gained nationally.

Passenger numbers continue to rise, especially commuter and business travel, but the rail industry is still experiencing revenue challenges.

The new Easton entrance at Temple Meads is being progressed. They will wait for the University campus to open ahead of opening the entrance up.

Ashley Down train station is seeing great progress and is due to open next summer. This will include a new footbridge.

Action: Network Rail and Transport Focus representatives to have a discussion on how to effectively use data.

Extension of £2 bus fair

This is a big opportunity to drive bus use.

Action: OCTB to share this with their networks.

5) Update Task and Finish work (Jacob Pryor, Board Support Officer)

Accessibility and Safety Task and Finish Group

The task and finish group met for the first time on 2nd November, with the next meeting due on the 7th December.

The group discussed legibility standards, and one of the group outcomes will be to benchmark against other UK cities regarding legibility, to organise walking tours for Transport Project Managers.

Due to lack of council resources and funding, they are going to approach the Bristol Business Improvement District team to discuss options for collaboration.

Freight Task and Finish Group

Freight Task and Finish group members were updated by email on the council's Freight Strategy, Freight Consolidation Hub workstream and the Frome Gateway Regeneration Framework consultation.

DR suggested the group connect with National Express.

Night Time Economy work

The Board Support Officer has engaged with the Council's Night Time Economy officer and will provide an update at the next board.

6) Proposal for Equality and Inclusion Advisory Group for the Transport Board

A proposal was made to set up an equality advisory group for the Transport Board to promote and ensure equitable access to transport opportunities, identify, address, and mitigate disparities in transport policies, services and infrastructure and to foster collaboration, advocate for positive change, and monitor progress to enhance transport equality.

Members indicated that there are existing transport equality groups with key transport stakeholders but that it may be useful to have a smaller more focused group of 4-5 people.

Action: Board Support Officer to look at existing groups and put together proposal for specific scope for a smaller group. ZBG offered to assist with this action.

Net Zero Task and Finish Group discussion

One of the OCTB goals is *“A citywide programme is in place to ensure all public transport in Bristol is zero carbon by 2030”*.

The board discussed this goal and the links to the Just Transition work. It was suggested that in line with the principles of a Just Transition, the board could review actions around net zero with an equality lens. This could be supported / aligned to the Equality advisory group.

The group should also consider explaining net-zero in a jargon and acronym-free way and obtain public opinions on public transport and barriers more generally.

Whilst the goal is difficult to attain, an objective could also be to convert journeys to walking.

The board noted that Bristol Green Capital Partnership and the Bristol City Council Climate Action group have done a lot of work around net zero and communication, and the board should be careful not to duplicate existing work.

Bath and Northeast Somerset (BANES) have a similar group.

Action: Board Support Officer to get best practice and lessons from contact in BANES, BGCP and BCCCA to understand whether this is scope for a more focussed piece of work

7) Any other business

Enterprise

In terms of accessibility, Enterprise offer surrogate drivers to support people who are unable to drive but would like to hire a car. They have aspirations for electric vehicles, but require more charging points before they can roll out required changes.

Sustrans

The walking and cycling index will be launched early 2024.

Action: To be added to forward plan for an update at future OCTB.

National highways

They have a scheme for identifying improvement opportunities and suggested that this could be used and adapted by other organisations for their own use.

Bristol Older Person's Forum

There will be a meeting by Toilet Network on 14th November. A lack of toilets is a key transport issue, as it often restricts people from travelling.

Bristol City Council

Indicated an interest in inviting Historic England to a future meeting, to discuss accessibility on bridges.

Bus Equalities representative

Reminded the board that the Local Plan is out for consultation and encouraged members to put forward their comments.

Reminded the board that Transport for Wales consultation is out, and will affect Bristol train stations.

Other

Date of next meetings: 12 Feb 2024, and mid April 2024.