

## Special Full Council – 18 June 2024 – Public Questions

Annexe A – Public Questions	
Name of person submitting	Question
David Redgewell	<p><b>Question 1a –</b></p> <p>Whist we welcome the Transport plan for the £4 Billion giga factory at Bridgwater Somerset at Gravity site near Puriton and Woolavington funding by the UK government departments for levelling up £74 million pounds on a motorway junction to m5</p> <p>Whist this may be a useful resource for 4000 new jobs into Somerset councils Unity council area North Somerset council Banes west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and the wider Region</p> <p>What discussion are going on with the Department for transport on the allocation of money for the following part of the Transport plan.</p> <p>Network Rail Western route for freight facilities grant for a part follow to BMW in the west Midlands at Solihull</p> <p>Most Automotive companies tend to move the parts and car flows by rail.</p> <p>The mini factory at Swindon and Oxford use rail freight as does the port of Bristol in the North of county at Portbury Dock</p> <p>Has the Somerset unity council discussed this Transport plan with Western Gateway Transport Board peninsula Transport Board or the other Somerset County Authority's North Somerset council Banes and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority And National Highways.</p> <p>Rail freight operators DB the German state Railway that run Britain freight trains . Freightliner limited or colus rail</p> <p>The extra traffic and co emissions and traffic congestion will be added to m5 corridor and the Bristol box</p> <p>So as well as the motorway junction the bus service plan for 4000 people is needs more than a new bus improvement to Burnham on sea and Highbridge Railway station and Burnham on sea and Bridgwater bus and coach station and Railway station</p> <p>The west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council who fund local passengers rail services partly from Taunton, Bridgwater Highbridge and Burnham Weston super mare , Worle parkway Yatton for clevedon Nalisea and Backwell Parson street Bedminster Bristol Temple meads station and on to Bristol Lawrence hill Bristol Stapleton Road and station to Clifton Down Avonmouth Dock and seven Beach.</p>

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The mayor of the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council is very keen on train services improvement to Weston Super Mare, Highbridge and Burnham on Sea, Bridgwater and Taunton. Wellington, Cullompton, Exeter, St Davids and bus link from South Bristol and Weston Super Mare in the way there is to Hinkley Point power station site. Run by First Group plc South Buses Division Somerset passengers solutions. From across the Region.

So in the Green Travel plans what discussion have taken place with First Group plc about bus and coach Depot facilities in Bridgwater Somerset including reopening Bridgwater bus Depot for electrification of the works and Town bus and coach Network Improvement to Bridgwater railway station for bus and coach interchange, cafe, toilets, facilities lift bridge as a metro west Railway Network gateway with Highbridge and Burnham on Sea station. Improvement to Bridgwater bus and coach station.

Why is 374 Bridgwater bus and coach station to Woolverton and villages to Walton Street, Glastonbury Wells bus and coach station, Chewton Mendip, Farrington Gurney, Clutton, Pensford, Whitchurch, Hengrove, Bristol Temple Meads, Bristol bus and coach station. Not being enhanced for staff to get to work at Purton.

This route could run x74 service on the route from key towns from Bristol through Somerset via Wells, Glastonbury and street.

Please can Somerset unity council explain in view both this project being UK government funded project.

If discussion on this Transport plan has been discussed with the Department for Transport, Network Rail, Western route National Highways, Rail freight operators, bus and coach companies especially First Group plc South Buses and Wales and West Buses Divisions, First Group plc Greater Western Trains Company Limited, GWR Stagecoach West and South West National Express coaches limited, Scottish City Link, Megabus, Falcon coaches.

But especially Region and Somerset councils. Like North Somerset council and Banes were some of the workforce will come from Bristol City Council, West of England Mayoral Combined Transport Authority, Mayor Dan Norris, South Gloucestershire County Council, Western Gateway Transport Board and Peninsula Transport Board.

### **Question 1b –**

Will a report on the proposal for the Bus and coach services improvement plans to site and to bus and coach stations at Bridgwater and Highbridge and Burnham on Sea.

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	<p>To the Somerset bus Advisory board Somerset bus users and stakeholders forum Bridgwater Town Council public transport Forum to Highbridge and Burnham on sea Town Council public transport committee. North Somerset council and west of England mayoral combined transport Authority bus service improvement plan panel and Board.</p> <p><b>Question 1c</b> Will the Battery's factory Green travel plan and sustainable transport plan on cycling walking and wheeling routes To Burnham on sea and Bridgwater Town centres and Railway stations Will their changing room facilities with showers and changing places toilets including for staff and visitors and E bike and scooter hire facilities as part of the plan to Have a safe cycling walking routes to Woolavington villages and Puriton Will Somerset unity council carry out Public consultation on the plan David Redgewell South west transport Network and Railfuture Severnside</p> <p><b>Response from Lead Member for Transport and Digital, Councillor Richard Wilkins</b></p>
<p><b>Full written response to be distributed within 5 working days</b></p>	<p><b>Question 1a.</b> Thank you for your question David. I am pleased as ever that you are engaged with us on bus related matters. I would encourage you to raise this sort of detailed technical issue through the Bus Advisory Board of which you are a member, as this is a more direct route for myself and relevant officers to engage with you on such detailed points.</p> <p>Turning to this month's question: The development is an important investment locally and nationally, and regular discussions are ongoing with the Department for Transport, National Highways and Network Rail regarding the access strategy. The local investment plan related to the site provides resource for local active travel and bus access, and detailed proposals will emerge as the workforce strategy develops and it becomes clearer where the workforce will live. Any public investment decisions regarding a new motorway junction and rail freight facilities are a matter for the Department for Transport and Network Rail but we continue to have close dialogue with them and the developer on these issues.</p>

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**Question 1b.** When details of any publicly accessible bus services funded through the local investment plan are finalised, we will be happy to bring a report on these to Somerset’s Bus Advisory Board and BUS group. Other stakeholders you have mentioned will be able to attend those meetings to receive an update on these matters.

**Question 1c:** The Agratas Occupier Specific site Travel Plan relating to the first of the three planned battery cell manufacturing facility buildings is currently being developed by the site promoter as part of the preparation for the submission of a Local Development Order (LDO) compliance application. The application documents The Gravity Community Forum and members briefings will collectively allow the public, stakeholders and members the opportunity to raise questions and to provide comments relating to the approach to public transport and active travel across the Gravity site relating to future stages of the development.