

**West of England Partnership
Joint Transport Executive Committee
12 November 2009**

Rail Update

Purpose of Report

1. To review progress and future plans with Network Rail and rail operator First Great Western.

Rail Updates

2. December 2009 Timetable
First Great Western to provide details of changes to the December 2009 and proposals for the Spring 2010 timetables.
3. Rolling Stock
Clarification is sought on First Great Western's plans following the reported return of 7 trains to Northern and 4 trains to Arriva Wales in May 2010. This means that First Great Western will be 11 trains short. Will the planned cascade of trains from Birmingham happen on time to avoid problems of overcrowding, short formed and cancelled trains?
4. Integration with bus services
First Great Western to provide an update on any initiatives planned with First Bus.
5. Electrification
Update on proposals for electrification of the Great Western Mainline to Bristol and Cardiff via Bath and Bristol Parkway.
6. Portishead update
North Somerset Council will provide a verbal update on progress towards the re-opening of the Portishead line for passengers.
7. Greater Bristol Metro
To discuss and provide an update on proposals for the Greater Bristol Metro.

Route Utilisation Strategy

8. The Great Western Route Utilisation Strategy Draft for Consultation is the subject of Agenda Item 6. It is expected that Network Rail will give a brief presentation on the RUS and its implications for the West of England.

Multi-Area Agreement

9. The proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the rail industry arising from the Multi-Area Agreement is the subject of Agenda Item 7.

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