

**West of England Partnership  
Joint Scrutiny Committee  
12 December 2008**

## **Filton Bank Cycle Path**

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To consider a letter from Network Rail regarding a cycle track along the Filton Bank.

### **Background**

2. At the Joint Scrutiny Committee on 10 October 2008 the possibility of running a cycle path along the disused railway trackbed along the Filton Bank between Dr Day's Junction and Bristol Parkway. Network Rail was written to enquiring as to the feasibility of such a scheme. Network Rail's response of 10 November 2008 is attached as Appendix One.

### **Network Rail response**

3. To meet growth forecasts Network Rail are evaluating options for the potential reinstatement of four tracks between Dr Day's Junction and Filton Abbey Wood and would oppose any proposed alternative use for the former trackbed.

### **Recommendation**

4. To note Network Rail's letter.

## Appendix One

### Network Rail letter of 10 November 2008

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James White  
Group Leader Transport Policy  
West of England Partnership  
Wilder House  
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19 NOV 2008

10 November 2008

Dear James

**Re: Cycle Track on the Filton bank and Route Utilisation Strategy**

With reference to the proposal for a cycle path alongside the 'Filton Bank railway line' from Dr Day's Junction to Bristol Parkway pleased be advised that Network Rail has publicly declared its strategy for developing the route in the Network Rail 2008 Business Plan (Strategic Route 13 GWML) and will re-iterate that position in the 2009 update.

We are evaluating the options to deliver improved cross-Bristol and West Midlands - South West rail corridors to meet growth forecast for the next thirty years as part of the Great Western Route Utilisation Strategy process. This includes the potential re-instatement of the four-track railway between Dr Day's Junction and Filton Abbey Wood.

With this in mind Network Rail would oppose any proposed alternative use for the former four-track railway trackbed. This would also include the proposed cycle track from Lawrence Hill to Montpellier.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Aldridge", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Aldridge  
Principal Route Planner, Western  
Planning & Regulation  
Network Rail