

**West of England Partnership
Joint Scrutiny
13 March 2009**

West of England Railway Land Asset Register 2009

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the setting up of the West of England Railway Land Register and seek views.

Background

2. Recent events over the sale of British Railway Board (BRB) owned land at the former goods yard site at Henbury highlighted the need for greater sharing of information between BRB, the four councils and the West of England Partnership.

Land Register

3. To ensure all parties are fully informed and engaged and cross boundary and strategic issues identified and discussed a Land Register has been produced (see Appendix One and Figure One). This lists all land currently owned and being sold by BRB. Other sites of potential interest are included along with site previously sold by BRB. Current status of the land and potential future uses are identified wherever possible.

Updates

4. The West of England Partnership will update the Register every six months with copies supplied to all four councils.

Patchway Station

5. Contrary to reports in the local media the land on the former coal yard at Patchway station has not been sold. South Gloucestershire Council are in negotiation with BRB to purchase part of the site for use as a future car park extension. A second part of the site will be brought to safeguard the future provision of a subway under the railway line. South Gloucestershire Council have until June 2009 to agree the purchase.

Recommendation

Members' views on the Railway Land Asset Register are requested.

Officer presenting the report: James White, West of England Partnership

Appendix One

West of England Railway Land Asset Register 2009

See Figure 1 for locations map.

No.	Site	Ownership	Status Jan 09	Future uses	Comment
1	Bristol Liberty Lane: Former Freightliner terminal	BRB (R)	Consultation on future uses 29/5/08	LRT passenger rolling stock stabling	Currently safeguarded for 'Future Rail Use' in BCC Local Plan.
2	Bristol Ashton Gate former sidings and Engineering Depot	BRB (R)	For sale	Sidings for Portishead line. LRT depot	Currently safeguarded for 'Rapid Transit' and 'Future Rail Use' in BCC Local Plan. BCC requested site be retained for transport in 2007 but BRB (R) decided to release for open market sale (suggesting we rely on planning powers to safeguard).
3	Chipping Sodbury – part of station yard	BRB (R)	For sale	To be investigated.	Future use for freight ruled out by BRB (R). Network Rail has purchased part of the site. Part still for sale. SGC investigating possible uses.
4	Patchway former coal yard	BRB (R)	Auction	Car park expansion and protection for subway.	SGC in negotiations with BRB (R). June 09 deadline.
5	Pilning – former sidings	BRB (R)	For sale	None	SGC investigating possible uses.
6	Portbury – 3 miles disused trackbed to Portishead	BRB (R)	For sale	Reopen line for passenger services to Portishead	NSC negotiating purchase.
7	Westerleigh Oil Terminal – former railway land	BRB (R)	For Sale	Bristol to Yate cycle path. Rail freight depot.	A licence for the cycle path was completed with SGC in September 2008.

8	Weston-super-Mare former sidings	BRB (R)	Unspecified	Unknown.	Shown blank under Status on BRB (R) list of schemes, January 2009.
9	Charfield station	Unknown	Not for sale.	Reopened station.	Site safeguarded in Local Plan.
10	Corsham station	North Wiltshire District Council (south side) and Network Rail (north side)	Derelict.	Reopened station.	Site safeguarded in Local Plan
Other Sites previously sold by BRB					
11	Avonmouth – former sidings at dock station	Unknown	?	None.	Sold.
12	Avonmouth – former goods yard	Unknown	?	None	Sold
13	Badminton – former coal yard	Unknown	?	Coal merchant and garden centre.	Sold
14	Bristol – Wapping Wharf	Unknown	?	None	Sold
15	Bristol – former sidings at West Depot	Unknown	?	None	Sold
16	Henbury – former goods yard	Unknown	Builders yard.	Reopened station.	Sold
17	Keynsham – former goods yard	Unknown	Builders yard.	None	Sold
18	Patchway – land at Station Road	Sold to tenant	Builders yard and garden supplies	Car park expansion.	Sold
19	Pilning – former coal yard	Unknown	Horse paddock and open land	None	Sold
20	Saltford – land in former goods yard	Unknown	?	None	Sold

21	Severn Beach – former goods yard	Unknown	Site cleared.	None	Sold
22	Yatton – land on south side and former goods yard	Unknown	?	None	Sold
23	Coalpit Heath – land at foot of embankment	Network Rail	Embankment works	None	Sold to Network Rail
24	Bristol Parkway – land adjoining M4 motorway	Unknown	Open field adjacent to embankment	None	Following consultation in 2007 BRB (R) released the land for open market sale.
25	Bristol Temple Meads – former station buildings	Unknown	?	?	Sold

Figure One

