

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

Response to statements made at Joint Scrutiny on 13 February 2009

Purpose

1. The report sets out responses to the statements made at the February 2009 Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting, which Members are asked to note.

Campaign for Better Transport

2. The Campaign for Better Transport's concerns about the Regional Funding Allocation process and decision making are noted.
3. On the issue of City Regions the West of England will be submitting a bid to become a statutory City Region or Economic Prosperity Board. Seven other sub-regions around the country are likely to submit similar bids.
4. There are no plans at present to hold a Rail Summit. Rail services to Westbury, Melksham and Swindon are issues for their respective local authorities to consider.
5. The Greater Bristol Bus Network has not been reduced in value. Full approval and full funding of £42.3m from the Department for Transport was given in May 2008. Officers from the four councils consult and co-operate with each other on supported bus services. A cross boundary transport meeting between the West of England and neighbouring authorities was held in February 2009.

West of England Partnership Office
18/02/2009