

**West of England  
Joint Transport Executive Committee  
19th June 2012**

**Public Transport Access to the new Southmead Hospital  
(Information report)**

**Purpose**

- 1 To report on the current joint working arrangements for the development of access plans for the expanded Southmead Hospital

**Background**

- 2 Southmead Hospital is based within the Bristol City Council area, but will serve surrounding areas including residents of South Gloucestershire.
- 3 The new hospital is expected to open in March 2014.
- 4 A Section 106 agreement is in place to provide funding (£1.5M) for improved public transport access to the new hospital. The funding is available for three years from 2013.
- 5 A S278 Agreement is in place with South Gloucestershire Council, providing £500K for junction improvements on the ring road.
- 6 A Southmead Joint Officer Transport Group (SJOTG) was formed in September 2010 to plan solutions to access issues. This Group consists of officers from Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council and representatives from the North Bristol NHS Trust. The SJOTG meet approximately once every two months. The next meeting is to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
- 7 The original basis for public transport improvements are covered in the Southmead Accessibility Study, produced by the West of England Partnership in 2009.
- 8 The SJTOG will continue to develop the proposals for improved access and following initial discussions with bus operators, will engage with them more formally once changes to BSOG and other economic factors are more certain. The work on the access solutions for the hospital is therefore unlikely to be formulated until late 2012 or early 2013. The project plan is contained in Appendix 1.

## **Current work of the Southmead Joint Officer Working Group**

- 9 The group have been tasked with reviewing the public transport services available and preparing plans for enhancements to improve access following the opening of the new hospital in March 2014.
- 10 Work is underway to investigate:
  - Extending the route of the existing BCC contracted service 507 (Southmead to Kingswood) to include communities to the south and east of Kingswood,
  - How access can be provided from the Yate/Chipping Sodbury area that will be sustainable and which avoids duplication with sections of existing services between those areas and Bristol or the North Fringe
  - how services from other areas can feed into interchanges at Kingswood, UWE, Bristol Parkway and Cribbs Causeway where people can interchange to existing/enhanced services to reach Southmead.
- 11 In addition to this task, discussions have been held with the main bus operators to ascertain their plans and what alterations they propose to make to their commercial networks for the opening of the expanded hospital. Given the cost pressures facing bus operators at the moment (changes in Bus Service Operators Grant, fuel costs etc) it is unlikely they will declare their commercial intentions until the economic outlook is clearer - possibly not until next year.
- 12 Therefore, because the extent of future commercial links to the hospital is unknown at this stage, it is premature to speculate with certainty what gaps in services would remain and to firm up arrangements for providing services through the supported network. It is proposed to report later this year or early in 2013 by which time the position should be clearer.

## **Proposed working arrangements**

- 18 Following the introduction of a new Committee process for decision making in South Gloucestershire, a report is being taken to South Gloucestershire's Planning Transport and Strategic Environment Committee to propose that the committee form a sub group of Members to oversee the development of the access arrangements to the new Southmead Hospital and provide direction to South Gloucestershire Council Officers who attend the Southmead Joint Transport Officer Working Group. Members are being asked to consider the appropriate size of the Sub Group and its membership.
- 19 The Executive Member in Bristol will be briefed at the same time to ensure that officers receive clear direction in their engagement with North Bristol NHS Trust.
- 19 To ensure effective Member engagement, it is suggested that the South Gloucestershire Council Member Group meet once every two months, approximately four weeks after the SJOTG meeting, allowing time for the

SJOTG minutes to be circulated and guidance to be given to Officers ahead of the next SJOTG meeting. This timing will also allow for minutes of the Member Group to be produced and sent for discussion at the following SJOTG meeting. Bristol City Council will also be considering processes for briefing the Executive Member.

## **Summary**

- 20 The work of SJOTG is continuing and progress is being made toward development of the access plan for Southmead Hospital, with joint working between South Gloucestershire Council, Bristol City Council and the North Bristol NHS Trust.
- 21 The SJOTG is due to report draft proposals in early 2013 when the economic situation is clearer and changes to Bus Service Operator Grant (BSOG) is known. There may also be an impact should the West of England Partnership submit an application to become a 'Better Bus Area', which is discussed in the report on 'Green Light for Better Buses' also being considered by this meeting of the Joint Transport Executive Committee.
- 22 The new governance arrangements in South Gloucestershire Council are now in place with the introduction of a Committee structure. There is a proposal to form a sub committee of Members to provide guidance to the SJOTG.

## **Environmental Impact Assessment**

- 23 There are no specific implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

## **Risk**

- 24 There are no specific implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

## **Resources (financial and personnel)**

- 25 There are no specific implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

## **Equalities Implications**

- 26 There are no specific implications arising from the recommendation in this report. Equalities implications for the new Southmead Hospital are a key part of the SJOTG work and will be fully considered.

## **Recommendation**

Members are requested to note the report  
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## Appendix 1: Project Plan

### PROJECT PLAN

**Southmead Hospital Redevelopment Project  
North Bristol Trust (NBT)/Bristol City Council (BCC)/South  
Gloucestershire Council (SGC)  
Joint Officers Transport Group High level project plan**

Item	Activity	Start	Finish	Owner
1	<b>Project Management</b>			
2	Draft High Level Project Plan	Nov-10	Dec-10	TD MDW
3	Draft and agree Terms of Reference	Nov-10	Dec-10	BCC/SGC/NBT
4	Draft Project Initiation Document	Dec-10	Feb-11	MDW
5	Stakeholder analysis	Dec-10	Feb-11	BCC/SGC/NBT
6	Create Issues Log	May-11		BCC/SGC/NBT
7	Produce Risk Register	May-11		BCC/SGC/NBT
8	Develop and Implement Communications Strategy	May-11		BCC/SGC/NBT
9				
10	<b>Communications</b>			
11	Joint Health Scrutiny Committee update	Mar-11	Mar-11	NBT
12	Joint Health Scrutiny Committee update	Sep-11	Sep-11	NBT
13	BCC Travel Roadshow	Sep-11	Sep-11	BCC
14	SGC Planning Transportation and Strategic Environment Committee update	Sep-11	Sep-11	SGC
15	Joint Health Scrutiny Committee update SGC Planning Transportation and Strategic Environment Committee update	Mar-12	Mar-12	NBT
16	Joint Health Scrutiny Committee update SGC Planning Transportation and Strategic Environment Committee update	Mar-12	Mar-12	SGC
17	Joint Health Scrutiny Committee update SGC Planning Transportation and Strategic Environment Committee update	Sep-12	Sep-12	NBT
18	Committee update	Sep-12	Sep-12	SGC
19	NBT Briefings to staff and patients	Apr-11	Apr-14	NBT
	<b>Transportation</b>			
20	NBT parking and enforcement policy	Oct-10	Apr-11	NBT
21	Review transport options and packages	Nov-10	Jun-11	BCC/SGC
22	On-street parking survey	Mar-11	Apr-11	BCC
23	NBT travel plan implementation	Apr-11		NBT
24	Travel roadshows with councils	Apr-11	May-11	NBT/BCC/SGC
25	Cycling initiatives	Jun-11		NBT/BCC/SGC
26	Plan services/contracts	Jul-11		BCC/SGC
27	Assess demand - 3 months	Jul-11	Dec-11	
28	Propose package of services - 12 months Review proposals with Exec Members, Joint Exec Transport Committee, NBT Board	Oct-11	Sep-12	
29	Consultation - 6 months	Sep-12	Sep-12	
30	Tendering - 9 months	Oct-12	Mar-13	
31	Agreed network plans	Apr-13	Dec-13	
32			Jan-14	
33	On-street parking survey	Sep-11		BCC
34	Begin parking controls process	Jan-12		BCC
35	On-street parking survey	Mar-12		BCC
45	Road infrastructure improvements (106/278)		Dec-13	BCC/SGC
36	Travel roadshows with councils	Jan-14		NBT/BCC/SGC

37	<b>New services running</b>	<b>Mar-14</b>		BCC/SGC
38	Hospital open (but road infrastructure/car parking to be completed)	Jun-14		
39	Hospital site complete (roads, car parks)	Sep-15		
40	<b>Section 106 / 278 works</b>			
41	Modelling road infrastructure	Jun-10	Apr-11	
42	Traffic Authority approval	Nov-10	Jul-11	
43	Proposals to NBT	May-11		
44	Proposals to Committee	Jul-11		
45	Amend S106 - deed of variation	Aug-11		
46	Public consultation	Jul-11		
47	TRO	Nov-11		
48	Transfer funds to BCC/SGC	Mar-12		
49	Scheme implementation	Sep-12	Oct-13	