

From: Friends of Suburban Bristol Railways
Fri 06/08/2021
To: transport.operations@westofengland-ca.gov.uk



Re: Bus Service Improvement Plan

We would appreciate the view of Friends of Suburban Bristol Railways (FoSBR) being taken into account as part of the board's consideration of the Bus Service Improvement Plan.

We believe that integration between modes of transport is vital in order to make public transport convenient and encourage its use. We want to see- as a priority- bus stops located near to rail stations and moved where necessary. Many local stations have great potential as interchanges. For example Stapleton Road, Lawrence Hill and Filton Abbey Wood. However bus stops are not sign-posted from stations and vice versa. One easy thing to do would be signage and announcements- "alight here for trains to Clifton Down and Avonmouth" or ..."for buses to St George and Kingswood" at Lawrence Hill station. Similarly at Stapleton Road station ..."for buses to Fishponds and Staple Hill" at Stapleton Road.

Filton Abbey Wood station could and should be made into an interchange. It has more local train services calling at it than at Bristol Parkway. However signage is poor and the route to bus stops unclear and too far (650 metres). Buses could be diverted along Nutfield Grove and the footpath that links it to the station so that passengers could get buses at the station car park.

New rail stations should be planned, particularly to enable integrated journeys. In addition to the stations proposed by WECA and its constituent authorities, we want to see stations at Coalpit Heath to connect with MetroBus and Lockleaze to connect with services to the local area, UWE and Southmead Hospital.

We need a contactless and/or paper all operators ticket that is convenient. Travelling across authority areas and on different companies' buses is prohibitively expensive, for example traveling from South Gloucestershire into Bristol.

There need to be rapid, limited stop services to ensure people in outlying areas, including parts of Bristol, do not face lengthy journeys.

Best wishes,

Rob Dixon,

FoSBR Chair