

Appendix B - Summary of presentation on wider transport schemes by Bethan Morris, Transport Planning Officer, South Gloucestershire Council

The presentation described how jointly, the West of England authorities are working to progress a major scheme programme and have sought additional funding through the Regional Funding Allocation (RFA) – a process of prioritising major transport schemes across the whole of the South West region. The authorities have been working with the rest of the South West region to provide advice to Government on major scheme priorities for the region. The advice includes seven major transport schemes in the West of England to be brought forward to completion up to 2018/19, and a further four schemes for which construction would start during this period totaling nearly £600m. If approved by the Secretary of State, there will be funding available in principle. Funding is subject to the major scheme bid approval process and meeting the RFA2 timescales.

The presentation then outlined recent progress on the implementation of the Greater Bristol Bus Network and briefly introduced the North Fringe to Hengrove package as the next major scheme in the RFA2 programme for which a Major Scheme Business Case is to be developed. The North Fringe to Hengrove package aims to provide a rapid transit route to link the North Fringe, Emersons Green and Hengrove, to Bristol City Centre. Work is currently in the early stages of considering options for this scheme - as part of this work we will be looking at options for the rapid transit running near to, if not to the University.

The vision is that the route will be part of a wider network of sustainable transport corridors across the sub-region connecting key areas of employment, leisure and housing. Rapid transit services aim to be fast, frequent and reliable with new, low-emission vehicles, high quality passenger facilities, information and interchanges and safe and secure access to stops. The aim is to provide segregation where possible to provide running capacity separate from car traffic.