



SALT FORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor Bowles,

Saltford Parish Council is pleased that you and Cllr Warren intervened to ensure a new railway station at Saltford is now featured in a map of transport improvements in the Joint Local Transport Plan 4 (2019-2036) ensuring Saltford railway station is on the agenda for further consideration and that Cllr Warren asked that the JLTP documentation be reviewed to ensure that all relevant maps included the option of a railway station at Saltford.

A re-opened railway station at Saltford has been part of the New Stations Package (Ashton Gate, Corsham, and Saltford) since the launch of the Metro West project in 2011. A station at Saltford has been shown on maps and diagrams produced by the West of England Partnership and WECA since that time. An example is Saltford Station (ref 113) being shown on the area wide diagram (appendix 6 Page 128) of the West of England LEP document "Embracing growth deal negotiations for 2015-2021". The reference to Saltford in that paper makes the point that there is economic as well as transport benefit in a re-opened station at Saltford.

Cllr Warren has stated that B&NES Council has been awaiting confirmation from Network Rail that the time-table would allow for stops at a Saltford Station. The minutes of the West of England Joint Transport Board (Friday 12th September 2014) Agenda item 7 MetroWest and Rail Update (section 20) states "Work has been ongoing on Saltford Station.Network Rail states that the risk of any delays accrued by this service spreading to the wider MetroWest route "needs to be managed through the development process but is NOT an insurmountable obstacle (in timetabling terms) to an additional Saltford Station". More technical work on timetabling will clearly be required."

B&NES Cabinet decided (3rd December 2014) following the highly encouraging Higher Level Output Assessment by CH2MHill that "Work should continue to develop the Business Case for a station at Saltford....."

Network Rail has stated that it is the responsibility of B&NES Council to ask that Saltford Station is included in the MetroWest timetable studies. Saltford Parish Council has not received an assurance from B&NES Council that this request has ever been made formally to Network Rail. There is no evidence that the business case is continuing to be developed by B&NES Council either.

Saltford Parish Council will respond to the consultation on JLTP4. Saltford Parish Council will argue once again that re-opening a railway station at Saltford as part of MetroWest is deliverable, affordable, and accords with the overarching aims and

policies of the West of England Combined Authority. It is a mission of Salford Parish Council, supported by residents, to re-open Salford Station as soon as possible.

Salford Parish Council asks that following the close of the JLTP4 consultation period:

- * A time-line and target date accompanying a critical path analysis be established by WECA for the re-opening of Salford station
- * B&NES Council engages directly with Network Rail and takes the project forward to GRIP stages 3 and 4
- * An officer at B&NES and an officer at WECA be assigned the Salford station project with a brief to report to Salford Parish Council on a regular basis on progress

Yours sincerely,

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Cllr Chris Warren
Chair of Salford Parish Council

cc.

- Cllr Tim Warren, Leader of B&NES Council and Conservative Group Leader
- James White, Lead Officer on Metro West at WECA
- Mark Hopwood, MD, Great Western Railway
- Mark Langman, Network Rail
- Jacob Rees-Mogg, Member of Parliament for North East Somerset
- Wera Hobhouse Member of Parliament for Bath
- Phil Harding, Chair of Salford Environment Group
- Cllr Mark Shelford, B&NES Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
- Cllr Sarah Bevan, B&NES Independents Spokesperson
- Cllr Dine Romero, B&NES Liberal Democrats Group Leader
- Cllr Emma Dixon, B&NES Salford Ward Councillor
- Cllr Francine Haerberling, B&NES Salford Ward Councillor
- Cllr John Bull, B&NES Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel
- Cllr Robin Moss, B&NES Labour Party Labour Group Leader
- B&NES Officers: Gary Peacock, Nick Simons, Claire Cornelius
- Editors at: Keynsham Voice; The Week In; Bristol Post; Bath Chronicle; Western Daily Press.