

Devon and Exeter Rail Working Party Progress Report – July 2017

Andrew Ardley

Transportation Manager (Policy)

Devon County Council

Strategy



- Devon Metro refresh 2017 including development of line plans
- Discussions with DfT on new GW and Cross Country Franchises from 2019 onwards
- Greater Exeter and JLP (South / West Devon and Plymouth)

New Stations



- Cranbrook and Newcourt performing well
- Marsh Barton awaiting New Stations Fund announcement
- Cullompton / Wellington – initial timetable feasibility study completed. Exploring next steps.
- Okehampton East / Parkway – car park earth levelling works almost complete; starting design work

Station Enhancements



- Exeter St Davids – GWR commissioned initial masterplan work, looking to set up joint team to progress
- Exmouth – GWR expecting to start enhancement works to station building in September
- Newton Abbot pedestrian and cycle access – working towards GRIP3, land and planning

Station Enhancements



- Barnstaple – NDC CCIF funding to improve pedestrian access to town centre

New routes



- Okehampton – DfT and GWR in discussions about potential trial service. DCC working with OkeRail, GWR, Aggregate Industries and Dartmoor Rail to examine capital works required for regular service
- Bere Alston – Tavistock: DCC continuing to acquire land. Working with partners and DfT to review costs and innovative ways of funding

The Way Forward?

- Rail Working Party has been successful but...
- Need to focus more on developing Devon Metro as a strategy
- December 2018 = a step change
- Link in with land use planning e.g. Greater Exeter, Joint Local Plan (South West Devon), North Devon / Torrington, Cullompton Garden Village
- Franchise changes – an opportunity

An alternative format?



- Move from a committee based format to a stakeholder event, potentially remaining on twice a year format
- More direct engagement with stakeholders and clarity of roles and commitments e.g. funding
- Work closely with Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership to develop event

An alternative format?

- Workshops on specific topics including plans for specific routes, feasibility of new services, stations etc.
- Surgeries with Network Rail and operators
- Clearer separation of funding streams between promotion and service enhancements – district councils to continue to support promotion activity
- Your thoughts?

Thank you