

Bath Alliance For Transport and Public Realm

PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed until 20 February 2019

Bath political groups to present their Transport Manifestos at conference on 4 April

Four weeks before the B&NES council election on 2 May 2019 all the Bath political groups will present their Bath Transport Manifestos at a public conference. Each of the political groups will put forward their transport proposals for Bath as they compete for votes in the election. Transport is consistently the top issue for voters in Bath, a World Heritage city but with severe and longstanding transport problems.

The 2019 Bath Transport Hustings will take place on 4 April 2019 16:45-20:30 at St Swithin's Church in Bath, sponsored by Bath Alliance for Transport and Public Realm. It is open free to members of the public but advance registration through eventbrite.com is required.

The conference will be chaired by Sir Peter Hendy, Chair of Network Rail and former London Transport Commissioner. Before the political groups present their manifestos Tim Bowles, Mayor of West of England Combined Authority, will present the new WECA regional transport plan and its benefits for Bath.

As conference sponsor the Alliance is politically neutral. However, it will present its own 'mock' Bath Transport Manifesto as a means of challenging the political groups to be bold and ambitious for Bath in addressing the city's transport issues.

Following each conference speaker there will be a Q&A session, allowing members of the public to participate, question and scrutinise.

The sponsors are preparing for up to 150 registered attendees at the conference to include invited guests, Bath politicians, stakeholders of the Alliance members, other members of the public and the media. Registration is available through eventbrite.com (*The 2019 Bath Transport Hustings*).

Speaking for the conference sponsor, Bath Alliance for Transport and Public Realm, Van DuBose commented:

"The Alliance transport conference last November, *The Future of Transport in Bath*, was well received by the 180 attendees. Our upcoming 4 April conference, *The 2019 Bath Transport Hustings* is timed for the 2 May local council election and will be a unique opportunity for all the competing political groups to present their full Bath Transport Manifestos for public scrutiny. Transport continues to be the top election issue for voters in Bath.

"The conference will be chaired by Sir Peter Hendy, Chair of Network Rail and former London Transport Commissioner, who also participated in the November conference. A separate feature at the 4 April conference will be remarks by Tim Bowles, Mayor of West of England Combined Authority, who will provide a briefing on how Bath will benefit from the new WECA transport plan (JLTP4) and its upcoming Bus Strategy."

Ends

Notes for Editors:

1. **For interviews** and further conference details please contact Van DuBose, van@fedubose.com, 07775 654 350.
2. **Photos** from the 16 November 2018 *The Future of Transport in Bath* conference sponsored by the Alliance:
<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipN9TE3BggSsy644PLsdy0OpEFPDG9q6qkdQUKLq4RaPlaiWNp0eTbff1TAfZlpvrA?key=ZG1ldkQzT29JUlducUg3U1Rrd01OMmRQanl2bWhB>
3. **About the Alliance:** The *Alliance* is an informal joining up of twenty one major Bath organisations to create a unified voice for the vast majority of Bath stakeholders with vital interests in excellent transport and public realm. The Alliance transport Vision for Bath:

*'A beautiful city in a green setting with vibrant public spaces,
a historic centre free of all but essential traffic, clean air,
good mobility and excellent transport infrastructure'*

The *Alliance* members are:

*Aviva Investors | Bath Bid | Bath Bridge | Bath City FC | The Bath Festival |
Bath Preservation Trust | FoBRA | Bath Rugby | Bath Spa University |
British Land | CARA | Curo | Cycle Bath | Wessex Water |
First West of England | Kaleidoscope collection | NHS B&NES CCG |
NHS RUH | Stay in Bath | Sustrans | University of Bath*