

Group Manager
Transport & Planning Policy
Bath & North East Somerset Council

please reply to:
23 James Way
Hucclecote
Gloucester
GL3 3TE

For the attention of Mr Peter Dawson

nigel.bray@railfuture.org.uk

14 October 2015

Dear Mr Dawson,

East of Bath Park & Ride Proposals Consultation

Railfuture wishes to respond as follows:

1. The possibility a railway station at Bathampton in connection with a bus based park & ride site is welcome. However, we consider that the suggestion for a single platform served only by trains turning round there from the west, with another platform on the Trowbridge line at a later date, would be of less overall benefit than a two platform station west of the junction, served by trains to / from Bath, Bristol, Trowbridge, Chippenham and Swindon.
2. A station at Bathampton needs to be attractive not only for travel into central Bath and places west thereof but also for journeys from the eastern side of the city to jobs in West and North Wiltshire without the need to double back via Bath Spa. We favour a Bristol-Swindon / Oxford service which could also connect Bathampton with a reopened station at Corsham, which is proposed by Wiltshire Council and would make sense in the context of the growth in employment at Corsham including an outbase of Bath Spa University.
3. Park & ride Site B would appear to be well placed for a two-platform station to be built west of the junction. Pedestrian access to the down (westbound) platform could be provided by building a path from Mill Lane.
4. Site F is adjacent to the north side of the railway junction. It might be possible to build a station immediately east of Mill Lane. Alternatively the proposed single platforms on the up side of the main line and the westbound Trowbridge line could be built, with the addition of a triangular platform in the junction fork, at the western extremity of Bathampton Farm, so that trains from the Swindon direction could serve the station.
5. Whichever site is chosen for the park & ride (and Site B appears to be the most pragmatic), the question of a station at Bathampton needs to be considered with a view to improving access to the rail network not only within the the West of England Partnership area but across Wiltshire and Mid-Western England as a whole.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Bray

Nigel Bray, Hon. Secretary, Railfuture Severnside.

1 www.railfuture.org.uk www.railfuturescotland.org.uk www.railfuturewales.org.uk
www.railwatch.org.uk