

FOSBR responds to North Somerset Core Strategy Consultation

FOSBR has responded to North Somerset Council's [Core Strategy Consultation Draft](#). The Core Strategy will be North Somerset's primary planning document within its Local Development Framework, replacing the Local Plan.

FOSBR's response to North Somerset Council

FOSBR welcomes the Council's support for the Bristol Rail Metro project, including reopening the bay platform at Weston-super-Mare station and the reinstatement of double track on the Weston loop line between Weston and Worle. This will enable the train service between Bristol and Weston to be enhanced.

FOSBR is concerned, however, that the Council is contemplating a rapid transit link between Bristol and Portishead as an alternative to restored passenger services on the Portishead railway line.

FOSBR urges that:

- the railway between Bristol and Portishead should be reopened for passenger use, with intermediate stations at Ashton Gate, Pill and Portbury;
- consideration is given to reopening the stations at Long Ashton, Flax Bourton and Uphill, and to opening a station on the Weston bypass line to serve development planned for the former Weston Airfield site;
- the Weston southern chord should be promoted, to allow a continuous service to run between Weston and Bristol;
- the existing Local Plan policies relating to existing and proposed railway lines and stations, proposed railway stations and strategic cycle routes (some of which follow disused railway alignments) continue in effect until they can be replaced by new policies that are no less favourable to rail.

FOSBR's comments can be viewed in context [on the e-consult page of the council's website](#).