

Tramway between Longridge and Preston

The following question was submitted by County Councillor Graham Gooch for Full Council Question Time on 17th July 2014:

"In view of Preston City Council's granting of planning permission for a large housing development in Longridge, and other developments in the area, will the cabinet member promote and support the building of a tramway between Longridge and Preston to provide sustainable transport, which the road system does not have the capacity to provide?"

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport responded:

"The development of a Tramway between Longridge and Preston does not form part of our plans and as such is not something that we would actively promote.

The scale of housing and economic development growth envisaged has been fully taken into account in the development of the now approved Central Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan. The interventions and improvements proposed in the Masterplan have been properly developed in terms of their deliverability and phasing in order to facilitate growth. The very clear approach that we have taken, linked to a strong evidence base and well thought out strategic improvements has helped to secure the City Deal and the recently announced £233.9m Local Growth Fund money which will help to deliver a number of our planned improvements.

The building of the Broughton bypass and the Preston Western Distributor, with the new junction on the M55, will enable all the new housing to be delivered with an effective transport network in place".