



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI594113922**

Thank you for your request for information relating to VLR project information.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. Environmental impact assessments, sustainability evaluations, life cycle assessments or similar reports conducted for the VLR project.**
- 2. Documents detailing the materials and quantities to be used for construction of the VLR guideway, stations, maintenance facilities, bridges, utilities, etc.**
- 3. Vehicle specifications including weight, capacity, battery details, and projected electricity consumption.**
- 4. Details on construction plans including equipment, waste management, traffic impacts.**
- 5. Plans regarding decommissioning of infrastructure and battery/vehicle disposal.**
- 6. Ridership projections, cost estimates, and other forecasts used in VLR plans.**
- 7. Agreements, communications, and documents exchanged between the Council and the VLR project team regarding the above details.**

The time frames will be from the start of the project (possible 2016).

The Coventry Very Light Rail programme has been in progress since the City Council secured initial funding towards a research and development project aimed at developing a zero-emission

public transport system suitable for small-to-medium sized cities such as Coventry.

The attached presentation provides an overview of the concept, the vehicle and the track design, whilst the following reports provide the information on the development and implementation of the programme through the research and development phase. You may also wish to review Cabinet reports for details which are available here:

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

The relevant reports are as follows:

Council: Implementing the Devolution Agreement – Provision for Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority 31 May, 2016

Cabinet: City Centre South 24th January, 2017

Cabinet: Connecting Coventry Strategic Transport Investment Programme 24th January, 2017

Cabinet: 2018/19 Transportation and Highway Maintenance Capital Report, 6th March 2018

Cabinet: Coventry Very Light Rail, 12th October 2021

Cabinet: Transportation and Highway Maintenance Capital Programme, 15th March 2022

Cabinet: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement, 6th September 2022

A further report will be taken to Cabinet in June/July 2024

As the CVLR programme is still at the research and development phase, some of the detailed information being sought in your request is not currently available, such as details of materials, construction plans and other aspects of the project that will form part of the Outline and Full Business Cases for the first route when statutory and funding approvals are being sought. The OBC and FBC for the first route would also include operational details such as the lifecycle of the vehicles and track used to operate the CVLR service when it is introduced, as these business case documents will need to cover the full capital and revenue costs associated with the scheme and service. Information from the current research and development work will provide the data on both the vehicle and track form that will inform the business case documentation when it is prepared.

The initial section of the route, from the railway station to the former IKEA building, is proposed to be delivered as a City Centre Demonstrator (CCD) in the first instance, and is the subject of a planning application that can be viewed on the City Council's website. The link to view Planning app is:

<https://planandregulatory.coventry.gov.uk/planning/index.html?fa=getApplication&id=270392>

Again, the CCD, which will see the vehicle and track form operating in a live city centre environment, will provide valuable data that will feed into the business case for the first route, and as such the CCD is an important element of the CVLR research and development programme.

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information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance