Metrobus - news on service start dates Issued Tuesday 15 May 2018 Embargoed until: 6am Wednesday 16 May 2018

From: Councillors Mhairi Threlfall, Colin Hunt and Elfan Ap Rees, First Managing Director James Freeman and Chief Executive of HCT Group (parent group of Bristol Community Transport) Dai Powell:

"With the preparations for the start of the first Metrobus service, the m3 from Emersons Green into the City Centre on May 29, well underway, we are all pleased to give you more good news about the m1 and m2 services.

We can now let you know that the m2 service, from Long Ashton Park & Ride via Temple Meads to the city centre, will start in Autumn, and the m1 service, from Hengrove to Cribbs Causeway, will start in January next year."

## m2 information

The guideway has undergone a period of testing in partnership with First, the operator. The testing has identified a requirement for minor (20mm) adjustments to the road height at three of the bends along the 3km route. These adjustments are planned for mid-summer. This will be followed by a further round of bus testing and we are working for the m2 service to start in Autumn this year. When we have a more definite date we will let you know.

## m1 information

The new gas buses have been ordered by Bristol Community Transport, and work on the necessary gas refuelling facilities at their depot in Bedminster will start soon. We are looking for services to start in January 2019.

## **Future Metrobus services**

These three services are the start of the Metrobus network and we are all confident that it will not be long before more routes are added to the network, helping to connect places where people live with work, college and leisure, tackling congestion and improving air quality.

## Note

All dates are as per contractor's current schedule. As they become more definite or change we will keep you informed.