East West Railway Company

31 March 2021
What we’ll cover today

- Government commitment and the three connection stages
- Introduction to the consultation
- What we’re consulting on
- How to get involved
- Next steps
Government commitment

- Government showed a big commitment to the East West Rail project and the Ox Cam Arc in the National Infrastructure Strategy and the spending review.

- Government’s £760m funding announcement to support the next phase of the project – construction from Bicester to Bletchley.
Three connection stages

1. Oxford Parkway → Bicester Village → Winslow → Bletchley

2. Oxford Parkway → Bicester Village → Winslow → Bletchley → Woburn Sands → Ridgmont → Bedford

Non-statutory public consultation

31 March – 9 June 2021
What we are consulting on

This 10-week consultation is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts on emerging proposals for East West Rail and your views on the broader scheme.

The consultation document covers the following key sections:

• Customer experience and railway operations
• Proposed infrastructure development
  • Oxford to Bicester
  • Bletchley and the Marston Vale Line
  • Bedford
  • Clapham Green to The Eversdens
  • Harlton to Hauxton
  • The Shelfords to Cambridge station
Shaping customer experience and railway operations

This part of our consultation focuses on what future customers want from their railway experience.

We want to hear your views – from individuals and organisations – on the customer experience you would like from East West Rail.
What we’re consulting on

Customer experience and railway operations

As part of developing the customer experience, we are keeping our minds completely open about what we might be able to offer.

We are looking for feedback on what our customers think would make positive differences to their customer travel experience.
The stations and railway lines between Oxford and Bicester do not have the capacity to run the four trains per hour service that is planned for East West Rail.

The proposed changes would provide people living, working and visiting the area around Oxford and Bicester with fast and reliable train services to Bletchley, Cambridge and stations in between - as well as better connectivity to the wider rail network.

More information is provided in Section A of the consultation document.
What are our developing plans?

• Improvements at Oxford, Oxford Parkway and Bicester Village stations to accommodate more trains and more customers

• Proposals for one or more additional platforms at Oxford station

• Improvements to the track in the Oxford area to increase capacity for EWR trains to approach Oxford

• Alternative ways for vehicles and pedestrians to cross the railway at London Road in Bicester to improve safety, to enable a faster, more reliable train service, and to reduce traffic disruption.
Public consultation

Working with you

Two meeting sessions with your neighbouring councillors during consultation:

• **Next week** – A session to run you through in detail all the elements we will be consulting on that are relevant to you

• **Late May** - A more discursive session – once you’ve had a chance to read through the documents and liaise with your constituents and residents - designed to raise any questions you might have.
How your communities can get involved

There are lots of different ways to get involved in the consultation, including:

- **Virtual consultation rooms** – open from 12 April 2021 until 9 June 2021 which provide more information on each section of the consultation, including a full list of documents and maps available via the central table.

- **Online public events** – we are holding twelve online events for communities right the way from Oxford to Cambridge. There will be two lots of six events covering geographical areas along the route.

- **Live chat events open to the public** – a series of twelve, two-hour live chat sessions held via the virtual consultation rooms, where participants will be able to discuss key topics directly with members of the project team.

- **Dedicated phone line** – the EWR Co telephone line will be available throughout the consultation period to enable those not wanting or able to engage online or in writing to speak to members of the Project team. The telephone number is **0330 134 0067**.
How to respond to this consultation

We’re keen to understand what you think about the emerging proposals for the Project, and your views on the broader scheme.

Feedback forms can be submitted online by emailing us at consultation@eastwestrail.co.uk or sent by post to Freepost EAST WEST RAIL

For further information, or to request a paper copy of the form to be sent to you, speak to the team by emailing us at contact@eastwestrail.co.uk or by calling us on 0330 134 0067
What next?