



STRATEGIC TRANSPORT FORUM

JANUARY 2019: Update on Actions

Action	Update	Status
From 22nd June 2018		
The meeting AGREED that EEH would work with the Transport Officer Support Group to develop a response to the Cross Country Franchise consultation, before sharing the response with forum members and agreeing sign off.	ONGOING	The commencement of the Williams Rail Review has become a priority for the Department for Transport, meaning individual franchise consultation activity has been put on hold temporarily. In December 2018, the Forum agreed the key strategic issues for submission to the Williams Review.
From 21st September 2018		
The meeting NOTED that it would need to consider in detail the further consultations on the Heathrow surface access plans, once they were published in 2019.	ONGOING	Consultations on the Heathrow surface access plans are due to be published during 2019. EEH Business Unit will keep the Forum abreast of progress.
From 7th December 2018		
The Forum AGREED to: a) Endorse the proposed approach to the Transport Strategy; b) The vision and three strategic principles and proposed approaches for defining and measuring them for the Economic Heartland strategy; c) Note the proposed content of the transport strategy.	ONGOING	EEU Business Unit is developing the Transport Strategy in line with the Forum's approved approach. Key strands of the transport strategy will be discussed during forthcoming Forum meetings, as set out on the meeting agenda.
The Forum AGREED to : a) Write to the Secretary of State for Transport setting out its concerns regarding the approach being following by the expressway project team b) Endorse the proposed approach for taking forward the connectivity study	COMPLETE	A copy of the letter approved by the Forum to send the Secretary of State for Transport is included the papers for Agenda Item 5b (Oxfordshire – Milton Keynes section of Expressway). EEH Business Unit is taking forward the next steps for the Oxfordshire - Milton Keynes Expressway connectivity study.

Action	Update	Status
<p>The Forum AGREED to:</p> <p>a) Restate its concerns about the delayed announcement of MRN early entry schemes.</p> <p>b) Note the DfT's approach to the structure of the MRN, including the breakdown of the National Roads Fund between the SRN and the MRN.</p> <p>c) Note the proposed approach to developing a methodology for the investment prioritisation of the MRN in the Heartland area.</p>	AGENDA ITEM	
<p>The Forum AGREED to:</p> <p>a) Welcome the Rail Review and note the Terms of Reference</p> <p>b) Set out the key strategic issues for the Forum in a submission to the Rail Review</p> <p>c) Note the work being taken forward that is of relevance to the Rail Review</p>	COMPLETE	The Forum's key strategic issues for consideration by the Williams Rail Review were submitted to the review team.
<p>The Forum AGREED to:</p> <p>a) Endorse the East West Rail Consortium's position in relation to the draft Transport and Works Act Order for the Western Section, specifically the need for the Order scheme to address the issues identified by the Consortium as being integral to its delivery.</p> <p>b) Note the work being taken forward by Network Rail to look at the future use of capacity on the West Coast Main Line</p> <p>c) Support the development of a business case for the installation of digital infrastructure alongside the delivery of the Western Section</p> <p>d) Support the need to explore with existing Train Operators the best way of delivering initial passenger services on the Western Section and to that end invite Chiltern Railways to attend the next meeting of the Forum</p> <p>e) Note the arrangements being put in place in anticipation of the forthcoming engagement by the East West Railway Company on the Central Section</p> <p>f) Confirm the strategic importance of the Eastern Section to this Forum as an integral element of the overall East West Rail project.</p>	AGENDA ITEM	