



# Thames Valley Railfuture AGM

Thursday 8 December 2022

# Cowley Branch Line

- Currently a freight-only branch line used by BMW-Mini Plant Cowley
- Proposal to open two new passenger stations **Oxford East** and **Oxford South**. Planned hourly Chiltern Railways service to/from Bicester and Marylebone from **December 2026**. Increasing to half-hourly frequency
- Nine and seven minute travel times (respectively) to Oxford
- Capacity retained for additional freight use
- Network Rail PACE Phase 1 complete, OBC issued. Separate Movement and Connectivity and Funding and Finance studies
- Report to Oxford City Council Cabinet 14 December seeking funding for progressing further PACE and Full Business Case stages



Platform 1

Platform 2



Widmerpool





08:26:02

← Platforms 1-2  
Toilets  
Waiting Room  
Way out

Widmerpool →



Arr 08:12 Riverside  
Platform at Riverside only  
08:26:02  
Dep 08:21 Riverside

↑  
① Inform  
🎫 Ticket  
🚌 Bus Sta  
Way out

←

Wikipedia

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# Oxford Railway Station

- Phase 2C will deliver a new Botley Road overbridge and Western Station entrance (and a new platform)
- More capacity for passengers (plus improved accessibility) and freight, clearance for full-height buses and massively improved active travel infrastructure. New 4m wide cycle/pedestrian routes as recommended by an independent LTN1/20 compliant study
- Sheepwash Bridge replaced and Roger Dudman Way improved
- Botley Road closure from 9 January to late-December 2023
- Blockades on Saturdays 25 March, 1 April, 13 August, 9 September, 14 October. **Nine-day closure 29 July-6 August 2023**







# Oxford Station Masterplan

- Weston-Williamson appointed to develop proposals for Oxford City/Oxfordshire County Council's and Network Rail
- Existing station will be redeveloped on a larger footprint and further east (closer to the City Centre)
- Desire to create a high-quality gateway to the City of Oxford
- More space for passengers, cycle parking and provision for buses
- Careful consideration of car parking needs and the development potential of the existing surface car park
- Discussion underway with GWR on a range of interim (and modest) improvements to the current station

# Services west of Oxford

- ORCs, the NwR Strategic Statement and EEH Rail Passenger Study all suggest benefits from extending EWR services to the west
- Would reduce congestion at Oxford station, freeing-up terminating platform space
- Bicester-Didcot through services would include Culham and Oxford Parkway, supporting significant (planned) housing and employment growth
- Direct connections can be made between Milton Keynes/Bletchley to Didcot/Science Vale in the short-term (2025) and then Cambridge/East Anglia and Swindon/Bristol (including supporting the case for a new station at Wantage/Grove) in the longer-term

# Proposed ORCs enhancements

	Enhancement	Source	Tph	Origin	Destination	Refinement
2024	EWR Western Section	EWR	2	Milton Keynes	<i>Didcot Parkway</i>	Extend to Didcot in path of GW shuttle; Culham call in each service
	EWR Western Section	EWR	1	Bedford	Oxford	
	Oxford Phase 2	Chiltern	0.5	Birmingham	Oxford	
2028	Cowley Branch	ORCS	2	Cowley	<i>London Marylebone</i>	Formed by extension of 2 Marylebone trains
	Hanborough	NCLTF	2	Hanborough	<i>Didcot Parkway / London Pad</i>	Extend 1 to Didcot & 1 to London; Culham call in each service
	North Cotswolds	NCLTF	1	Paddington	Gt Malvern	
	EWR Central Section	EWR	2	Cambridge	<i>Bristol / Southampton</i>	Extend 1 to Bristol and 1 to Southampton
	Coventry corridor	Midlands Engine Rail	1	Birmingham	<i>Bristol</i>	Extend to Bristol
	Solihull Corridor	Midlands Engine Rail	1	Birmingham	Oxford	
	Banbury shuttle	ORCS	0.5	Banbury	Oxford	
	Grove new station	ORCS	~	<i>Hourly call in EWR CS service</i>		
	Begbroke new station	ORCS	~	<i>Hourly call in Banbury shuttle</i>		
2033	EWR+	EWR	2	Cambridge	Oxford	

# Freight for the future - FMUs



Freight for the future – new locomotives with much higher tractive power offer substantial benefits



# **Thank-you for listening!**

Pete Brunskill MRTPI

Principal Green Transport Planner

Oxford City Council

