

Thames Valley Branch

Secretary
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Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit,
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by e-mail to: transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk

23rd July 2021

Dear Madam/Sir,

Network Rail (Oxford Phase 2) Order

I write on behalf of Railfuture Thames Valley regarding the above Transport & Works Act Order. We wish to register our strong support for this application. We have consistently supported all schemes to improve rail services, passenger and freight, in the Oxford corridor. Oxford Phase 2 is a vital next step in enhancing Oxford's station and the railway through the corridor which is essential to provide the necessary capacity for additional passenger train services, whether local "Oxford Metro", East West Rail or additional services on the north Cotswold Line and on the Birmingham route as well as more freight trains. Replacement of the two level crossings to the north of Oxford is a key element in the provision of greater capacity.

Oxford's present station has for many years been barely fit for purpose given the growth in usage and is in need of considerable expansion to provide the capacity for growth both in trains and passengers. Oxford urgently needs a station worthy of its global status and this scheme is the next stage in securing a station with the capacity and facilities the city deserves.

We very much hope and expect that this Order be approved without delay so that work can commence at the earliest opportunity. Please do get in touch if you require any clarification from us on the points raised.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew McCallum

Andrew McCallum
Secretary
Railfuture - Thames Valley Branch