

Dear Sir,

I was surprised to see in the Industry Strategic Business Plan for England & Wales for CP5 (Section 5.4.5 East West) that 'no firm programme has yet been developed for the design and implementation of the project'.

Recently, much political capital was made of the fact that funding for the Oxford-Bedford section of the East-West Rail project had been agreed, and the investment was one of a number of infrastructure projects that would help to bring the UK out of recession.

Could you please confirm that Network Rail have this in their programme of work, and advise when we may expect to see it implemented? I do hope that Ministers were not being economical with the truth.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Smith
Chairman
Hitchin Rail User Group