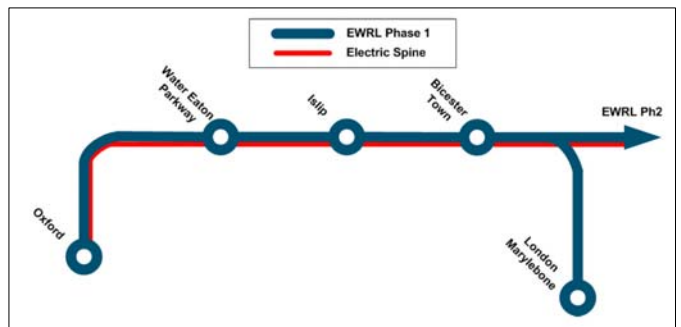


PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE 3 30 October 2013

Phase One - Oxford to Bicester Town

This section will deliver the benefits of a new station at Oxford Parkway (Water Eaton), upgrades to the current stations at Islip and Bicester Town and a new fast Chiltern Railways service between Oxford and London Marylebone by spring 2016.



'Bicester Chord' – 1 km rail link joining the Oxford Line to the Chiltern Main Line

To date, approximately 10,000 (out of 80,000) tonnes of recycled railway ballast has been delivered by rail near Gavray Drive, Bicester to build the new chord. Delivery by rail avoids road congestion in the area and minimises pollution.



Bicester to Oxford Collaboration Site Office

An office has been established in Bessemer Close, Bicester, giving the Collaboration team a local base.

What a difference a day makes – Water Eaton

The massive 1940s grain silo at Water Eaton is being demolished to clear the way for the new Oxford Parkway station. The photos below were both taken at 16.15hrs, one day apart. The demolition works should be complete early November.

23 October 2013



24 October 2013



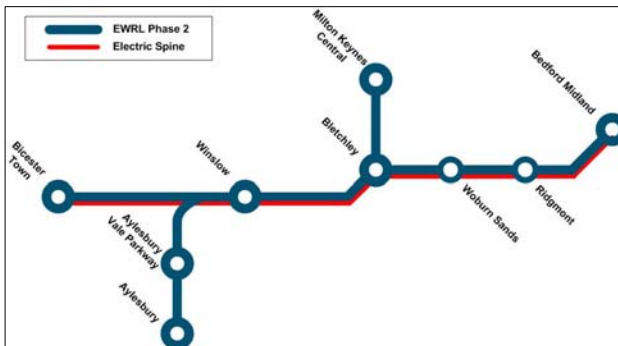
Railway crossings

To date, nine crossings identified in the Transport and Works Act Order (granted on 17 May 2013 to give powers to build the fast railway between Oxford and London Marylebone) have been legally closed and one temporary footpath closure is in place. The outline scope for "stopping up" and removal of the physical crossings has been agreed and each site will now be visited to firm up the process and next steps.



PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE 3

30 October 2013



Phase Two - Bicester to Bedford, Milton Keynes to Aylesbury

This section of the project covers the railway between Bicester and Bedford, Aylesbury and Milton Keynes including building a new station at Winslow and rebuilding the track between Claydon Junction and Bletchley.



Ecology and Environment Work

Reptile and bat surveys have been completed along the mothballed section of track between Claydon and Bletchley for autumn 2013 and interim reports are due next month. Grass snakes and common lizards (photo shows a juvenile common lizard) were found throughout the site. Dormice surveys are ongoing with a report due early December.

Phase 2 Scope

Whilst the core East West Rail scheme (as defined in the Consortium prospectus) is well understood, it makes sense to construct the railway to meet future needs. With this in mind, the DfT has suggested a potential enhanced output specification, and over the next few months Network Rail will be working with the DfT, Consortium and representatives of the wider rail industry to establish what those future needs might be, and the route capability required to accommodate them.



Railway Crossings

Constructive discussions with Buckinghamshire Council concerning crossings over the mothballed section were held at the 3rd Rights of Way Officers' meeting on 18th October. Various options for closures and redirections with foot bridges over the railway have been proposed. This work will now be progressed by the project team making contact with land owners for initial feedback with a view to summarising progress at the next meeting in November.

Where can I find out more?

If you would like to find out more about East West Rail and the benefits the project will bring please visit our website at www.eastwestrail.org.uk or contact our Communications team by email info@eastwestrail.org.uk or phone 07785 927 210.

