

## **East West Rail Consortium Strategic Board 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

### **Agenda Item 8c: Felixstowe to Nuneaton**

**Recommendation: It is recommended that the meeting note the report**

#### **1. A Strategic Rail Freight Corridor**

- 1.1. Members of the East West Rail Consortium have consistently highlighted the importance of ensuring that investment in rail infrastructure actively supports rail freight.
- 1.2. Although not directly linked with the East West Rail project, ensuring that the Felixstowe to Nuneaton corridor is improved is of interest and of regional significance for England's Economic Heartland, Transport East and Midlands Connect.
- 1.3. To that end in July the three Sub-national Transport Bodies wrote jointly to the Chancellor of the Exchequer setting out the region's collective support for ensuring that improvements in/around Ely and at Haughley Junction are taken forward at pace.
- 1.4. The STBs letter was timely given that it coincided with the Government's announcement as to the importance of investment in infrastructure as a means of enabling and supporting the economic recovery.
- 1.5. A copy of the STBs letter is attached as Annex 1 for reference: the letter is a public document and can be used by partners as appropriate.

**Martin Tugwell  
July 2020**