

18/04/2016

Delivered by post

Dear Sir/Madam

Rail Central - invitation to community consultation

Rail Central is a proposed new Strategic Rail Freight Interchange in Northamptonshire. The site is located where the West Coast Mainline meets the Northampton Loop Line to the south west of Northampton and between the villages of Blisworth and Milton Malsor.

From 28 April 2016, Ashfield Land, the developers behind Rail Central, will be inviting the local community to take part in the formal community consultation process known as Section 47 Consultation. Feedback received will help to inform the final application for the project to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

I am writing to invite you to attend one of our public exhibitions so that you can find out more, view the plans, and register comments and opinions. From 28 April 2016, we will be consulting the community on the draft plans and inviting written feedback.

The dates and locations of the exhibitions are:

Walnut Tree Inn

Thursday 28 April, 12pm – 8pm
21 Station Road, Blisworth NN7 3DS

Walnut Tree Inn

Friday 6 May, 12pm – 8pm
21 Station Road, Blisworth NN7 3DS

Blisworth Village Hall

Saturday 7 May, 11am – 4pm
19 Stoke Road, Blisworth NN7 3DB

Roads Village Hall

Friday 13 May, 11am – 5pm
Bailey Brooks Lane, Roads NN7 2LT

Collingtree Village Hall

Saturday 14 May, 11am – 4pm
The High Street, Collingtree NN4 0NQ

Towcester Town Hall

Wednesday 18 May, 12pm – 8pm
86 Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BS

Milton Malsor Village Hall

Friday 20 May, 12pm – 8pm
High Street, Milton Malsor NN7 3AS

Blisworth Village Hall

Saturday 21 May, 11am – 4pm
19 Stoke Road, Blisworth NN7 3DB

If you cannot attend an exhibition the exhibition materials can also be viewed on our website www.railcentral.com and at a range of advertised locations locally:

- Northamptonshire County Council Offices
- Northampton Borough Council Offices
- Northamptonshire Central Library
- Roade Library
- Towcester Library

We have set up a number of ways to help ensure local communities can provide feedback. This includes:

- Project website: from 28 April 2016, the project website (www.railcentral.com) will include the latest project information, updates and core documents as detailed above. An online feedback system will also be available on the website.
- Project email address: the project email address (railcentral@camargue.uk) is monitored regularly and can be used to request further information, ask questions or submit feedback.
- Freepost: the dedicated project freepost address (Freepost Rail Central) can be used to request further information, ask questions or submit feedback.
- Project telephone line: the project telephone line (0845 543 8967) can be used for general enquiries relating to the consultation. Local residents and other interested parties can request information by telephoning the project telephone line. However, it is not possible to provide feedback through the consultation line.

The deadline for feedback for the formal Section 47 community consultation is **30 September 2016**. All feedback provided during the consultation period will be considered. The Consultation Report will detail the consultation carried out, summarise the feedback received and demonstrate how Ashfield Land has had regard to feedback

Following completion of our pre-application consultation, the plans will be finalised and an application is expected to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate – the body that considers applications for nationally significant infrastructure projects – in 2017. A final decision will be taken by the Government.

I hope you are able to attend our event. Members of our consultation team look forward to meeting you.

Yours faithfully

Claire Cope
Director, Planning