

NEWS FROM RAIL CENTRAL

17 April 2018

RAIL CENTRAL CONSULTATION CLOSING ON 23 APRIL

Reminder to submit feedback ahead of the Phase Two deadline

Rail Central's Phase Two public consultation closes on Monday 23 April – anyone wanting to provide their feedback is being encouraged to make sure they do so.

The Phase Two consultation started on 15 March. Six public exhibitions took place across Blisworth, Milton Malsor, Roade and Towcester between 15 and 24 March and more than 600 people visited the sessions to talk to the development team and view more details on the proposals.

James Digby from Rail Central said: "With the 23 April deadline fast approaching, we're reminding anyone who wants to comment that now is the time to do so. The responses and feedback people give us during the Phase Two consultation can help to shape the scheme. We had some valuable discussions with people at the public exhibitions and we want to make Rail Central the best it can be. We'd encourage anyone who hasn't submitted their feedback and wants to do so to make sure they send it in by 23 April."

Rail Central is inviting feedback from the local community as well as a wider range of stakeholders and organisations.

All feedback submitted before the deadline will be logged and reviewed, as well as incorporated into the overall scheme design and development process, in line with the process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

Feedback from the Phase One consultation in 2016 resulted in a number of significant refinements to the draft proposals. These included landscaping, adjustments to road and access arrangements, and changes to proposals for the area of the site west of the A43 (which is now proposed to be parkland and green open space).

Anyone wanting to submit feedback can do so via the website (www.railcentral.com), by e-mailing to railcentral@camargue.uk or by writing to 'FREEPOST Rail Central'.

To encourage people to take part in the Phase Two consultation and raise awareness about the proposals, Rail Central issued more than 7,000 leaflets to properties across Blisworth, Milton Malsor, Roade and Towcester.

Following the close of the consultation, Rail Central will assess all of the feedback and complete further design and technical work before submitting an application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINs).

The application is anticipated to be submitted in the summer.

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Notes to Editors

Anyone wanting to participate in the consultation can submit feedback from 15 March via special feedback forms (made available at the public exhibitions), by e-mailing or on-line at the Rail Central website (www.railcentral.com) or by post.

All feedback needs to be provided in writing by 11.59 on Monday 23 April.

The information published at Phase Two includes a full suite of technical reports and surveys together with non-technical summaries specifically designed to ensure as wide a range of people as want to can participate in the consultation.

The times, dates and venues for the six Phase Two public exhibitions were:

Venue	Address	Date	Time
Walnut Tree Inn	21 Station Rd, Blisworth NN7 3DS	Thursday 15 March	2pm – 8pm
Milton Malsor Village Hall	High Street, Milton Malsor, NN7 3AS	Saturday 17 March	12.30pm – 5.30pm
Roade Village Hall	Bailey Brooks Lane, Roade NN7 2LS	Wednesday 21 March	1pm – 7pm
South Northamptonshire Council Chamber	The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD	Thursday 22 March	1pm – 7pm
Milton Malsor Village Hall	High Street, Milton Malsor, NN7 3AS	Friday 23 March	2pm – 8pm
Blisworth Village Hall	19 Stoke Road, Blisworth NN7 3DB	Saturday 24 March	10am – 4pm

Following the Phase Two consultation, all feedback will be reported in a Consultation Report which forms part of the submission documents when applying for a DCO.

The DCO application is expected to be submitted in the summer. It will be made to the Planning Inspectorate (PINs) which is the Government body responsible for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. PINs may then accept the application for Examination leading to a recommendation being made to the Secretary of State who will ultimately make the decision.

If approved, the earliest anticipated start of construction on site would be late 2019 with the potential for the first business occupiers to move in during 2021.

Full information on Rail Central including the Preliminary Environmental Information and other material for consultation can be found at www.railcentral.com

More information on the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects is available at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Media Contact

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