

COUNCIL MEETING – 12 SEPTEMBER 2013
Item 9 (ii)

**Recommendation to Council from the Executive meeting
held on 13 August 2013**

E/13/36 East West Rail

The Executive considered a report from the Executive Member for Sustainable Communities for Strategic Planning and Economic Development that outlined the benefits and implications of a new East West rail route. The report also set out the contribution required of the Council to support the delivery of the East West Rail (Western Section) Project, following discussions with Network Rail, the Department for Transport and the East West Rail consortium.

In response to a question, the Council would seek to monitor in particular any proposed works to the level crossing in Woburn Sands, as this might have an impact on the residents of Woburn.

The Executive Member for Sustainable Communities – Strategic Planning and Economic Development explained the reasons for promoting a stopping point at Ridgmont. Ridgmont Station had better parking facilities and was closest to, for example, Cranfield University.

Reason for decision: For the Council to fulfil its obligations to support the delivery of the East West Rail Western Section project.

RESOLVED

- 1. that the Council supports the East West Rail Western Section project, with a preference for a new Bedford to Oxford / Reading rail service to include a stop at Ridgmont station.**

RECOMMENDED to Council

- 1. that the Council's contribution to the East West Rail Western Section project of an estimated £5.180 million be included in future updates of the Capital Programme.***