

Elstree & Borehamwood Interchange Scheme update

April 2010



Elstree & Borehamwood Interchange Scheme in progress

Welcome to the Elstree & Borehamwood Interchange Scheme Update. The purpose of this publication is to update our local stakeholders of the development of the forecourt works and discuss some of the key considerations for the scheme.

The station forecourt has a large impact on the local community as many residents use the public transport on offer. The main aim for the scheme is to deliver a safe and sustainable forecourt which is fit for purpose.

Local stakeholder events took place at the end of June and October 2009, providing forecourt users the opportunity to feedback on the scheme. The level of interest has been gratifying and Hertfordshire County Council, First Capital Connect and the project design engineers considered all the suggestions that were made.

Some of the key issues which have been considered are as follows:

- Bus waiting areas and shelters are outdated.
- Inadequate Kiss & Ride bays.
- Sub-standard disabled parking bays.
- Provision of Taxi waiting facilities.
- Vehicular conflict at several locations.
- Pedestrian routes not ideal.
- Cycle routes poorly defined.
- No bus layover bay (terminus).

Answering your questions

The following section lists our responses to some of the feedback we have received about this project:

“Disabled friendly approach to station required.” - The forecourt will be designed to provide step free access to the station, buses, taxi ranks and car parking.

“Avoid use of too many railings.” - A general reduction in railings has been designed into the plans to open up the forecourt.

“Lighting and CCTV needs to be planned carefully.” - This will be considered in the detailed design phase of the scheme and will adhere to Network Rail and British Transport Police guidance levels. The lighting will be similar to those used in the forecourt at Hitchin and Potters Bar.

“Buses to face the station.” - The design has considered this comment at length following on from the stakeholder events. This included several re-works of the design and simulated auto-tracking of bus movements. It was felt that this design would not significantly improve the overall forecourt which it was set out to achieve. These improvements are essential to be delivered to satisfy the funding criteria set out by the Department for Transport.

Spotlight on buses

- Elstree & Borehamwood is an important interchange for bus passengers, with 36 bus departures per hour during peak times.
- Nine routes provide services to both location destinations and places further afield, including Barnet, Edgware, Watford, Stanmore, Potters Bar and Hatfield.



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Key features of the Scheme

The project will deliver following improvements to the existing forecourt.

- Raised pavements at bus waiting shelters to allow front and middle door access.
- A formal bus layover bay has been created.
- 3 disabled parking spaces have been created and located close to station building.
- Improved taxi waiting facilities.
- Increased allocation of cycle parking.
- Pavements to be increased to 3 metres in width.
- Reduced clutter and railings at the station making it easier to enter and egress from the station building.
- Improved lighting and CCTV facilities covering the forecourt.



Communications Strategy

First Capital Connect, Hertfordshire County Council and Hertsmere Borough Council will be implementing a communications campaign prior to the forecourt being constructed. Works are due to commence from May 2010 with an expected completion date of September 2010.

There may be some minor disruption to forecourt users during the construction phase, so users will be advised of alternative arrangements via information leaflets distributed at the station, in local publications and online at (www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk) in due course.

Posters will also be displayed at the station building and special arrangements with the local bus companies will be made to ensure a regular service is in operation during the construction phase of the project.

Funding

The bus / rail interchange scheme is being funded by Hertfordshire County Council via S106 funding along with contributions from First Capital Connect and the Department for Transport 'Access for All' Scheme.

First Impressions – Vibrant Towns

"First Impressions" is a local initiative based on the idea of creating a good "*first impression*" of Elstree & Borehamwood, stressing its rich film and television heritage and its unique role as a leading centre of film activity for nearly 100 years.

For over a year people from First Capital Connect (FCC) have met with representatives of Hertsmere Borough Council, Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council, Hertfordshire County Highways, the Hertfordshire County Tourism and Leisure Partnership, and local volunteer group Elstree Screen Heritage to discuss how best to make a positive impact on people who live in, work in, or visit Elstree & Borehamwood.

Working in partnership with the "First Impressions" team, Hertsmere Borough Council has been successful in its bid for a proportion of the Vibrant Towns Group's "Recession to Recovery" fund. The aim of the project is to create a stronger identity and sense of pride in the local community and to make the train station a true gateway to the town.

There are also plans to regenerate the Shenley Road to start to develop the town's potential as an attractive place to visit. Look out for future publicity on this project in the local media with information on how you can get involved.

Contact Details

For further information about this project please contact:

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