

# Cambridge South Station Briefing Note, 4 June 2018

The Government announced in the Autumn Budget 2017 that it would provide £5m to support the accelerated development of proposals for a new rail station in the south of Cambridge, with matched funding of £5m from local and private sector partners (the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Greater Cambridge Partnership and AstraZeneca).

## About the project

Cambridge South station would be situated adjacent to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC), an internationally significant health and life sciences cluster that is expected to almost double in size, accommodating 27,000 jobs by 2031. In the next year, The Royal Papworth Hospital will relocate to the CBC and AstraZeneca's new global headquarters and strategic R&D centre will become operational.

Improving transport access to the site is vital to help the businesses on the CBC to grow and remain both nationally and internationally competitive by attracting skilled staff from a wide catchment area. The station is also needed to provide visitors to Addenbrooke's and The Royal Papworth hospitals with convenient and sustainable access by rail.

The station would support connections across Cambridgeshire and East Anglia, and provide for journeys to Stansted Airport, Kings Cross, Liverpool Street, and in future, a range of destinations en route to Oxford via East West Rail.

Due to the surrounding rail network being at capacity, the current proposal is to expand the track around the proposed station to enable a good quality service to run upon opening. This would include expanding the current two and three track sections to four tracks north and south of the new station, and improving the junction to the south, where the Stansted / Liverpool Street and Kings Cross bound trains currently diverge (see image below). This infrastructure would also be required for the proposed southern alignment of the central section of East West Rail between the Bedford area and Cambridge.

In the short-term, the focus is on completing the necessary environmental studies, engineering designs and feasibility assessments required for the project's Outline Business Case. On current projections, it is expected that this stage will take around two years.

## Recent developments

In November 2017, the Department for Transport approved the project's Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC). The SOBC showed the project has a Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.3-1.5:1 at this early stage of development, and highlighted further work that is required to understand the feasibility of the scheme.

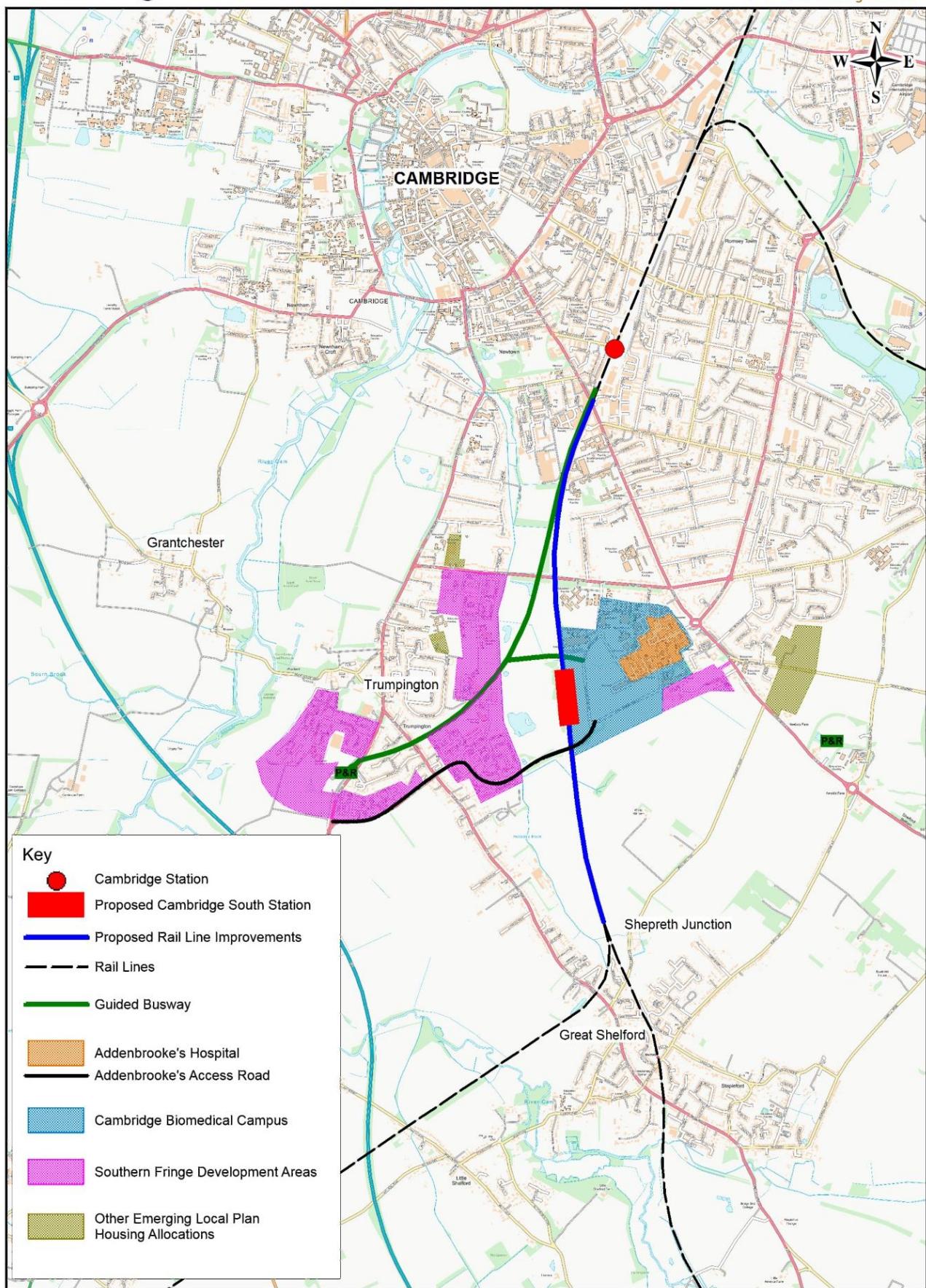
Subsequently, in January 2018, the funding partners signed a Heads of Terms document, setting out their commitments to the project and their expectations of the work required in the short-medium term to advance the proposals. A Development Agreement, formalising each partner's commitment to developing the proposal further is now being finalised.

In February 2018, the Department for Transport gave Network Rail the go-ahead to begin procurement of engineering design contractors, and conduct initial feasibility studies. It is expected that contractors will be appointed by autumn 2018.

## Scheme delivery

Work is soon to commence on a funding, financing and delivery strategy for the project, which will explore innovative models for paying for and constructing the station and rail infrastructure. This work is expected to be completed by autumn 2018. In parallel with this, the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, James Palmer, is leading work on options for accelerating delivery of the project. This research is expected to be completed in late summer / early autumn 2018.

# Cambridge South Station Location Plan



Scale (at A4): 1:450610

Centred at: 543432,265863

Date: 11/12/2017

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