



**Extract from the Minutes of
PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Southampton

Date of Meeting: 5 October 2011

THE HEATHROW HUB PROPOSAL
Linking rail & HS2 with Heathrow Airport
Presentation by Steven Costello, Director, Heathrow Hub Ltd

Post meeting note:

Hampshire Chamber of Commerce responded to the HS2 government consultation this summer as well as writing to the Secretary of State for Transport last year, saying that Chamber members were concerned that High Speed Rail, as currently proposed under the "HS2" review, does not provide a fast rail link to businesses in the south and west of England and omits to connect to the UK international air hub at Heathrow Airport. In his reply to Jimmy Chestnutt, Chief Executive of Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, the Secretary of State said he believed that any new high speed line should be directly connected to Heathrow.

Meeting notes:

Steven Costello presented Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, as an active regional Chamber of Commerce, about the Heathrow Hub proposal of Heathrow Hub Ltd; an alternative to the HS2 modification being looked at by the Government, with the advantage to connect Heathrow by fast rail to the south sooner.

Steven Costello presented a series of slides that showed how the Heathrow Hub Proposal gives the opportunity to provide High Speed Rail that fully integrates Heathrow Airport with a new intermodal air, rail and road interchange called Heathrow Hub that will in turn create improved transport links to/from Heathrow and the rest of the country, together with good links to the south and southwest regions of England. Most importantly, the cost of making these modifications appeared very favourable compared to other alternatives being proposed.

The first phase of Heathrow Hub will provide a major new railway station alongside the airport to serve existing Great Western Main Line services from Bristol, the south coast, south west, Cotswolds and South Wales, as well as Crossrail. The Hub would also allow for direct road access from the M25 for cars and coaches and provide passenger terminal facilities linked directly by fast airside transit to the airport.

The second phase of the Hub could provide Heathrow's direct interchange with HS2 on a through alignment via the airport as is the case in France, Germany and Holland, rather than leave the UK's only hub airport on a branch line connection to/from West London. It also provides more options for a less environmentally damaging HS2 route, reducing the environmental impacts on London's

suburbs and the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty through better use of existing transport corridors.

Nick Farthing, Chair, confirmed these proposals could be very significant for Southampton as a major port and cruise passenger terminal. It was agreed that the Chamber should promote the Heathrow Hub proposal as the opportunity to integrate Heathrow Airport with the proposed HS2 high speed rail route out of London, to deliver wider economic, social and environmental benefits to the region and to do so with lower costs than other proposed alternatives.

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