

Meeting: BBC capital investment works Ampthill Road – link with EWR proposals

Held on: 01/07/2025

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Richard Starkey (RS) – Bedford DCO Engagement Lead, EWR CO
 Mo Alserdare (MA) – Bedford Programme Manager, EWR Co
 Veronika Mora (VM) – Bedford Project Manager, EWR Co
 Jon Franklin-Ferrar (JFF) – Bedford Engineering Manager, EWR Co
 Kelvin Saldanha (KS) – Highways Lead, EWR Co
 Alex Miles (AM) – Highways Engineer, EWR Co
 Paulina Wawrejko (PW) - Bedford DCO Engagement Coordinator, EWR Co
 David Bennet (DB) – Major Contracts and Delivery Team Leader, Bedford Borough Council

Meeting objectives: to understand the council’s plans for surrounding Ampthill Road.

Meeting minutes:

Item	Text	Action
1.	Introductions	
2.	DB inquired about the value of investing capital budgets in works if EWR Co will be conducting works in the same area.	
3.	Discussions held in relation to the realignment of Ampthill Road for railway electrification. MA noted that EWR Co is reconsidering this option due to topographical surveys, but the current position is that the highway needs to be realigned by 1.5-2m.	
4.	DB shared a sketch of the proposed council works on Ampthill Road. Key works include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurfacing of the road • Parapet wall repairs between Ampthill Road and St Leonard Mews • VRS barrier repairs • Bridge joint replacement and deck surfacing near Elstow Park and Ride 	
5.	DB noted that the council has budget to spend by the end of March; therefore, any works need to be programmed in by December at the latest.	

Item	Text	Action
6.	EWR Co agreed to review BBCs proposed works and identify any potential abortive works and potential opportunities for collaborative work.	1
7.	KS inquired about any works near Britannia Road and Bedford St John's Hospital. DB confirmed there was no works planned for Britannia Road.	
8.	DB shared a sketch of planned improvements to the Midland Road corridor. Key points included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junction improvements (A5141 and Ford End Road) • Pedestrian footbridge refurbishment • LED interactive lighting under Ford End Road Council agreed to share these sketches with EWR Co	2
9.	KS asked if there was any update on the Prebend Street relief. DB confirmed there was no update but will inquire further and provide an update if applicable.	3
10.	KS asked if there was any works on Bromham Road. DB confirmed there was no planned works on Bromham Road, but there was some interest in doing some work on the Hurst Grove junction, although this currently lacks funding.	
11.	JFF inquired about the A6 Great Ouse Way and asked if passive provision for dualling was included in the design, as previously suggested by Jon Shortland in December 2024. DB stated that dualling was not included in the design. DB also noted that the design was in the optioneering stage.	
12.	EWR Co requested timelines for works that are critical and those which could be deferred (e.g., the parapet work). DB agreed to provide a list of works that are critical to be completed by the end of March 2026.	4
13.	KS noted that EWR Co was preparing Road Safety Audits and asked whether BBC would like to be observers or actively involved. DB stated that it is likely BBC will be observers but will provide confirmation.	5
14.	Attendees noted that further engagement on highways, traffic and transport will be held once the PPA is signed between EWR Co and BBC.	

Action log:

Action	Action Owner
1. EWR Co agreed to review the BBC's proposed works and identify any potential abortive works and potential opportunities.	EWR Co - all
2. DB to share sketches of planned improvements to the Midland Road corridor	BBC – DB
3. DB to provide an update on the Prebend Street relief	BBC – DB

4. DB to provide a list of works which are critical to be completed by end of March 2026	BBC – DB
5. DB to confirm whether BBC would like to be observers on the Road Safety Audits	BBC – DB