



Strategic Transport Leadership Board

January 2026: Update on Actions

From 5 th December 2024 Strategic Transport Leadership Board		
<p>Buses</p> <p>Cllr Adam Zerny (AZ) said that he and Cllr Javed Hussain discussed the idea of establishing a bus link between the East Coast Main Line and Luton Airport, potentially from Hitchin, going cross-country.</p>	In Progress	Further work to explore the Luton to Dunstable extension options has now been commissioned. Demand levels at either end and along its existing route are being captured as part of the study.

From 20 th June 2025 Strategic Transport Leadership Board		
<p>Oxford - Cambridge Growth Corridor</p> <p>The following actions were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Further advice from EEH Board members on how to strengthen engagement between government, infrastructure delivery bodies and local places.	In Progress	The 'Securing Investment in the Region' table in Agenda Item 5 (11/07/25) sets out how EEH officers are working to strengthen engagement on each individual project.
Invite representatives from RESP to a future meeting to explain their work.	In Progress	Representatives from RESP have been invited to attend a future meeting. We are currently coordinating with them to agree on a suitable date for the board.

From 11 th July 2025 Strategic Transport Leadership Board		
<p>Better Buses</p> <p>EEH to produce a lessons learned summary on DRT schemes funded within the region through DfT Rural Mobility Fund, to support shared insights across partners—especially regarding rural transport.</p>	Complete	Agenda Item 6



Making the Case for Investment		
EEH to report back to the Board on Homes England funding for infrastructure to support housing growth.	Ongoing	We are seeking clarity from Homes England.

From 4th December 2025 Strategic Transport Leadership Board		
Public Questions		
EEH to engage EWR Co and Network Rail on options for a direct MKC–Bedford–Cambridge service and report back.	Complete	EEH has engaged with EWR Co and Network Rail on options for a direct Milton Keynes–Bedford–Cambridge service and has reported back to Alan Francis
Integration		
EEH to incorporate feedback and develop prioritised TOPs (including a proposed Luton TOP and consideration of Cambourne)	In Progress	Agenda item 5
NISTA		
EEH to circulate slides.	Complete	EEH circulated slides on the 8 th December.
Progress on Priorities		
EEH to work with Swindon Borough Council to discuss options for the A420 Acorn Bridge constraint.	Complete	EEH has contacted Swindon Borough Council and a meeting is being set up to discuss A420 Acorn Bridge options.
Cllr Beckett to reach out to Margaret Read (NISTA) about opportunities for securing government funding for maintenance and renewal projects.	Complete	EEH facilitated Cllr Beckett's engagement with Margaret Read.
EEH to draft the A404 letter to the Secretary of State.	Complete	EEH drafted and sent the A404 letter to the Secretary of State.

