



**Ian Sollom MP**  
Member of Parliament for St Neots  
and Mid Cambridgeshire  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
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David Hughes CEO

East West Rail

Sent by email to [david@eastwestrail.co.uk](mailto:david@eastwestrail.co.uk)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear David,

I am writing to you on behalf of my constituents in St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire to raise concerns around East West Rail (EWR) proposals shared in the recent non-statutory consultation. It is essential that all residents' voices are heard throughout this process, and I've welcomed the opportunity to discuss these issues with you during the consultation.

Whilst I support the many positive impacts East West Rail will have on transport links in the region, in particular a new rail station at Cambourne and a new station interconnecting EWR with the East Coast Mainline, there are several issues with how the proposals affect residents in the St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire constituency that I would like you to address.

1. Many residents have expressed disappointment that the route does not connect through the existing St Neots station, providing new services easily accessible to current residents. Will you provide a comprehensive explanation of why EWR has chosen not to pursue such a route, and how EWR will ensure St Neots residents will be able to easily get to the proposed new station to the south?
2. Given the preferred route, an additional station on the eastern edge of St Neots would provide much easier accessibility to many residents of the town, with easy walking and cycling connections to the current St Neots station. Can you explain why an additional station in this location is currently out of scope and will you ensure that the design of the line is future proofed for current and future St Neots residents such that a station can be more easily constructed here should St Neots continue to grow?
3. In Highfields Caldecote, I am hugely concerned by the disruption to local residents, future residents of the Bourn Airfield Development, as well as the users of the A428, that will be caused by the proposed cut and cover construction of the tunnel in this location. Will you agree to a full evaluation of a mined and/or bored tunnel before proceeding further?
4. The area in which householders receive compensation for the disruption and impact they face is deeply unsatisfactory. Under the current scheme and red line

#### **Social Media**

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boundary, too many residents that will be significantly affected are excluded from the compensation scheme. What steps are you taking to ensure that all of the most affected households receive proper compensation?

I understand from our previous discussions that in relation to compensation you are limited by the current framework for compensation that exists in legislation. I would welcome further explanation of these limits.

I look forward to your response.  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Sollom'.

Ian Sollom  
Member of Parliament for St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire

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