



Demolish Euston Station and then go further

23rd February 2014

Railfuture, the UK's leading independent rail campaigning organisation, is urging George Osborne to go even further in his proposal to demolish Euston station.

"The chance to rebuild Euston gives us a huge opportunity to kill several birds with one stone" said Bruce Williamson from Railfuture. "We can include an enhanced HS2 sub-surface station, the so-called "Euston Cross", and integrate the HS1/HS2 connection at the same time, as well as hugely improving connections to the Underground by rebuilding and linking Euston and Euston Square stations thus providing links to 5 tube lines."

"The incorporation of the sub-surface Euston Cross means that the surface redevelopment of Euston would need almost no additional land-take and also means that more space is available for commercial and residential development thus increasing the value of the scheme".

"Crucially, the Euston Cross proposal means that we won't have to demolish half of Camden, because some of the high-speed trains will be approaching in tunnel from Old Oak Common, as well as giving us the ability to project through trains to the southeast. With the addition of subterranean pedestrian connections, we can create a fully integrated Euston-St Pancras-King's Cross International super hub".

"The HS1/HS2 connection means we can eliminate the ill-thought out proposal to use Primrose Hill and Camden Road. Furthermore, the Euston Cross proposal can also be future-proofed by incorporating advance provision for Crossrail 2".

"Private sector money can make a huge contribution here from the "airspace" above Euston and the regeneration of the surrounding area, and combined with the potential for substantial regeneration and development at Old Oak Common, and Curzon Street in Birmingham, major elements of HS2 Phase 1 costs can be deflected away from the UK taxpayer, whilst at the same time providing a major revenue uplift to the UK economy."

"Basically, we need to think big, think out of the box and think ahead, just like the Victorians did. We've lost our way in terms of entrepreneurial endeavour in the last 100 years, but here we have the opportunity for a win-win-win."

Notes to editors:

Railfuture is the UK's leading independent organisation campaigning for better rail services for both passengers and freight.

Railfuture's website can be found at: www.railfuture.org.uk

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