

Hounslow Local Plan (2020-2041)
Examination Matters, Issues and Questions

**Matter 5 – Transport, Communications and
Connectivity**

**Question 2: London Borough of Hounslow Council
Response**

Position Statement

January 2026



**London Borough
of Hounslow**

1.1. The London Borough of Hounslow submitted the Local Plan 2020-2041 to the Planning Inspectorate in June 2025. The Inspectors issued the Council with Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQs) in November 2025. As part of the MIQs, the two appointed Inspectors asked the London Borough of Hounslow the following question:

1.2. *“Are the following planned transport improvements as identified in the Plan, including Policy EC1, to support housing and employment growth likely to be delivered in the plan period and if so, what is the source of the most up-to-date evidence in terms of funding arrangements and timescales for each?”*

a) West London Orbital - Brentford-Southall Rail Link to Elizabeth Line and HS2 Station

b) Piccadilly Line Service improvements

c) District Line Service improvements

d) Surface Level Access to Heathrow Airport via the South West Railway network

e) Gunnersbury Station improvements

f) Hounslow West Station improvements

g) Kew Bridge Station improvements

h) Golden Mile Station

i) Lionel Road Station

j) Improvements to bus services and introduction of express bus services

k) Cycling network improvements

l) Walking and cycling enhancements

N.B. The Council should liaise with stakeholders for each of the above infrastructure projects to produce a Statement of Common Ground in advance of the hearing sessions, if they have not done so already.”

1.3. LB Hounslow is in the process of preparing Statements of Common Ground with the relevant stakeholders in regards to *a, b, c, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l* above. In regards to *(d) Surface Level Access to Heathrow Airport via the South West Railway network*, the Council have prepared the following position Statement.

1.4. LB Hounslow are supportive of the delivery of a new surface level access to Heathrow Airport. This support is illustrated by the inclusion of the project within the Local Plan 2020-2041 as well as the Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) and 2025 Transport Strategy where it is stated that the Council are committed to *“Ensuring public transport connectivity is enhanced between the borough and Heathrow to benefit local residents and workers”*. Within the Transport Strategy (2025) it is also stated that the Council wishes to *“continue to collaborate*

with Heathrow on surface access, enabling greater active travel to and from the airport especially for employees”

1.5. Despite being clearly supportive of the project, the Council does not believe it is necessary to draft a Statement(s) of Common Ground (SoCG) with Stakeholder(s) on the Surface Level Access to Heathrow at this juncture. The Council will proactively collaborate with all interested parties in due course, but the project is still in its infancy, and it would only be beneficial for a SoCG to be drafted and signed as and when details relating to the project are at a more advanced stage. The Council have aspirations to support the delivery of the project in the Plan period, subject to confirmation of funding for further scheme development and delivery, and agree to collaborate and work together where necessary to promote the project with all interested parties and stakeholders.