

Birmingham Eastside Extension

Transport and Works Act 1992

The Transport and Works
(Applications and Objections Procedure)
(England and Wales) Rules 2006

Concise Statement of Aims



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Transport and Works Act 1992

Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 – Rule 10(2)(c)

The Midland Metro (Birmingham City Centre Eastside Extension) Order

CONCISE STATEMENT OF THE AIMS OF THE PROPOSALS

1. Introduction

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) is applying for an order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 for powers to construct, operate and maintain an extension of the Midland Metro from the junction of Bull Street and Corporation Street to Digbeth High Street and High Street Deritend in Birmingham City Centre (the BEE). It is supported by Birmingham City Council, Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) and wholly funded by Government in order to ensure that the GBSLEP can maximise the local economic benefits before and after the arrival of High Speed Two (HS2) in the region.

This document is a concise statement of the aims of the BEE and has been produced as one of the documents required to be submitted with the application under Rule 10(2)(c) of the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006.

2. Aims of the BEE

The BEE forms part of a package of works that are supported and funded by the Government in order to maximise the benefits of the investment in HS2. Funding for the scheme has therefore been awarded from the Local Growth Fund and within the West Midlands Devolution Deal.

The aims of the BEE support both national and local policies for growth and investment and are enumerated below; each is followed by information on how the BEE will achieve them:

1. Provide Access to International Gateways & HS2

The BEE will connect HS2 Curzon Street station with the wider Birmingham City Centre area and the Black Country by linking to the expanding Midland Metro network. It will maximise interchange opportunities with the existing railway stations at New Street and Snow Hill, whilst minimising impacts to other road users and in particular local bus services. It will also provide for future Midland Metro connections to East Birmingham, linking to Birmingham Airport, Birmingham International and the HS2 Birmingham Interchange.

2. Provide Economic Benefits and Improve Business Efficiency and Interactions

The BEE will provide significant economic benefits, helping to improve business efficiency in the Eastside, Digbeth and the City Centre Enterprise Zone and helping to unlock Birmingham's growth potential by increasing jobs and deepening labour pools through providing better transport accessibility. It will avoid impact on freight movements in the West Midlands.

3. Link Key Developments and Facilitate Growth

The BEE will link key developments in Eastside and Digbeth with the Birmingham City Centre Core and the wider region, facilitating the growth proposed in Birmingham's Development Plan, Big City Plan and Birmingham Curzon HS2 Masterplan. It will encourage interaction between Birmingham businesses and stimulate growth, providing new and improved public transport links for Eastside and Digbeth, enabling businesses to access important national and international markets, supporting growth within the City Centre Enterprise Zone and reinforcing the economic momentum of the area. It will reduce journey times between Eastside and central Birmingham and the Black Country and will provide opportunities for modal shift to Midland Metro from private cars helping to reduce congestion and bringing opportunities for improving walking and cycling.

4. Enhance Access to Labour and Skills

The BEE will provide high quality public transport links with key population, education and employment centres in the city and wider region, in particular along the Line 1 corridor, such as West Bromwich and Bilston, in order to open up access to the jobs created in the City Centre Enterprise Zone.