

# Rugby Parkway Station - frequently asked questions

## Section 1: About this public engagement

### Why are you undertaking a public engagement?

Warwickshire County Council is undertaking a public engagement on its plans for Rugby Parkway Station ahead of the submission of an application for outline planning permission (to seek permission for the principle of a station development at this location).

The public engagement provides an opportunity for the local community, businesses and other stakeholders to feedback and comment on the proposals to be submitted for outline planning permission as well as the opportunity to feed into the development of the detailed design.

Warwickshire County Council is inviting people to provide their comments on the proposals for Rugby Parkway Station via the online Response Form at [warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](https://warwickshire.gov.uk/ask)

Alternatively, feedback can be provided in writing via email to [rugbyparkway@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:rugbyparkway@warwickshire.gov.uk) or by writing to Rugby Parkway Engagement, Customer Service Centre, Shire Hall, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4RL.

The closing date for comments is 11:29pm 20 February 2023.

### Where can I find out more about Rugby Parkway Station?

Two drop-in public information events are being held where you can find out more about the station and speak to the project team.

Visit us at:

**3 February 2023 2pm to 7pm at The Barn at Houlton, Dollman Road, Houlton, Rugby CV23 1AL**

**4 February 2023 9am to 2pm at Rugby Central Shopping Centre, (outside Wilko), Market Mall, Rugby CV21 2JR**

If you are unable to attend the drop-in events or these have already happened, you can find out more about Rugby Parkway Station at [warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](https://warwickshire.gov.uk/ask)

### What will happen with my feedback?

All feedback must be submitted in writing by completing the Response Form at [warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](https://warwickshire.gov.uk/ask) or via email or post by 11:59pm 20 February 2023.

After this date all the feedback received will be reviewed and where necessary the plans and supporting information will be updated ahead of the submission of an application for outline planning permission. As part of this application a Statement of Community Engagement will describe the public engagement process and where feedback from the local community, businesses and stakeholders has informed the proposals submitted.

There will be a further opportunity to provide feedback on the application for outline planning permission once it has been submitted, this consultation will be undertaken by the Local Planning Authority, Warwickshire County Council.

Your feedback will also inform the preparation of the detailed designs for Rugby Parkway Station. These will be submitted for approval after outline planning permission has been granted. Again, there will be a further opportunity to provide feedback as part of the formal consultation undertaken on these details when submitted to Local Planning Authority.

Unfortunately, Warwickshire County Council is not able to respond to comments and feedback on an individual basis but would like to assure that all feedback is valuable and will be considered as part of the development of the designs and proposals for Rugby Parkway Station.

## **Section 2: Scheme development and delivery**

### **Why do we need a second station for Rugby?**

The development and delivery of sustainable transport improvements within Rugby Borough are essential to support its housing and employment growth proposals as set out in the Rugby Borough [Local Plan](#) 2011-2031 (adopted in June 2019).

In addition, demand for rail has grown in Warwickshire with passenger numbers rising steeply. Whilst COVID-19 has impacted on passenger numbers in the short term, the longer term trend is for passenger numbers to continue to grow and rail remains the sustainable transport mode of choice for many residents.

The town centre location of Rugby Station restricts its ability to expand to meet the anticipated growth in passenger numbers. A second access to the local and national rail network, Rugby Parkway, is therefore required. The location to the South East of Rugby adjacent to the Houlton development and close to the Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal (DIRFT) ensures the growing population is supported by sustainable transport infrastructure.

### **What about Rugby Station?**

Plans for Rugby Station are also being developed by Warwickshire County Council, these are seeking to improve the passenger experience as well as make the station more accessible by integrating bus, cycle, and pedestrian routes.

## **What benefits will Rugby Parkway Station deliver?**

Rugby Parkway Station will:

- Ease congestion on the road network around Rugby Town Station by providing a second access to the local and national rail network for residents and businesses in Rugby;
- Provide a direct rail service to London, Milton Keynes, Northampton, Coventry and Birmingham, and a circa 5 minute journey time into Rugby itself;
- Support a shift from private car use to rail for all or part of a journey and link with local bus, cycle and walking routes for sustainable travel options. Movement to and from the station via the new highway access design will deliver convenient and safe access for all modes of travel across Crick Road and support existing active modes of travel (such as walking and cycling);
- The station site layout will integrate access for sustainable modes of travel into and around the site;
- Be a step-change for businesses, supporting economic growth and improving accessibility to employment sites within Rugby and the adjacent DIRFT (Daverly International Rail Freight Terminal) site;
- Improve access to employment, education, leisure and travel opportunities for residents and businesses supporting Rugby's growing population.

## **Who is funding the scheme?**

Warwickshire County Council has funded the development of the project to date. It is currently exploring funding options for the next stage of the development of the proposals.

## **Is Rugby Parkway definitely happening?**

Warwickshire County Council is progressing the delivery of Rugby Parkway Station as part of its commitment to making the rail network more accessible to its residents and businesses; it has a proven track record of successfully delivering new stations including Warwick Parkway, Stratford upon Avon Parkway and Kenilworth stations.

## **When will the station be open for passengers?**

Warwickshire County Council's ambition is for Rugby Parkway Station to open to passengers in 2026, subject to funding and necessary consents being secured. It should be noted that this is a provisional date given the project is in its early stages of development.

## **When will construction start?**

Construction of the station is anticipated to begin in 2025 subject to funding and necessary consents being secured.

## Who is promoting the scheme?

The scheme is being promoted by Warwickshire County Council working with the rail industry.

## Section 3: Information about the station

### Where will Rugby Parkway Station be located?

Rugby Parkway Station will be located approximately 5km South East of Rugby adjacent to the A428 Crick Road at Houlton.

The site for Rugby Parkway Station was identified and allocated for the purpose of a new station in Rugby Borough Council's Local Plan 2011-2031.

### Location Plan



### What facilities will be provided at Rugby Parkway Station?

Whilst the plans for Rugby Parkway Station are at an early stage, the station is expected to include:

- New highway access through creation of a fourth arm to the existing signalised junction on Crick Road;
- Parking for up to 325 vehicles with allocated parking bays for blue badge holders and EV (electric vehicle) charging points. The exact number of spaces will be informed by ongoing passenger demand modelling and Rugby Borough Council's Local Plan parking standards;
- Secure cycle stands for station users, with the number informed by passenger demand modelling and cycle parking standards;
- Two platforms with step free access via a footbridge and ramps and/or lifts. The station will be fully accessible to people with reduced mobility and other access requirements;
- Shelters and seating along the platforms, exact number and position to be confirmed;

- Passenger drop off/pick up;
- Taxis drop off/pick up;
- Provision of bus stop;
- Audio frequency induction loops for station announcements;
- Ticket purchasing facilities and real time passenger information boards;
- CCTV cameras.

The details are at an early stage and are subject to change.

### Illustrative site plan Rugby Parkway Station



1. Two platforms, each provided with shelters and seating for passengers, lighting, and real time passenger information.
2. Footbridge and lifts connecting platforms and car park.
3. New highway access:
  - Creation of fourth arm to existing signalised junction on Crick Road (A428);
  - Design to integrate with shared use cycle / footway on Crick Road (A428).
4. Integrated access for walking and cycling into and around the site.
5. Parking for up to 325 vehicles with allocated parking bays for blue badge users, parent and child, motorcycles, EV (electric vehicle) charging points.
6. Station Forecourt to include:
  - Taxi drop off / pick up
  - Passenger drop off / pick up
  - Station staff parking
  - Secure cycle storage for station users
  - Bus stop and bus service information
7. Boundary planting
8. Area for sustainable drainage system, landscaping and biodiversity.

## **Will the station be accessible?**

The station is being designed in line with Department for Transport guidelines on accessible railway stations to provide step free access. Amongst the facilities at the station the following will make it easier for those with accessibility requirements to use the station:

- Tactile paving;
- Blue badge parking;
- Footbridge with lifts and/or ramp to provide access between the platforms;
- Passenger drop off/pick;
- Provision for taxis/bus stop;
- Real time passenger information boards;
- Audio frequency induction loops for station announcements;
- Covered seating on the platform.

## **Section 4: Getting to and from the station**

### **How will people travel to and from the station?**

The majority of rail passengers are forecast to come from the surrounding residential areas, including Houlton and Hillmorton. Warwickshire County Council is keen to encourage passengers to switch to sustainable active travel from journey outset and is exploring options for connectivity with cycling, walking and public transport routes.

The station site layout will integrate access for sustainable modes of travel into and around the site. The highway access design will provide safe crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists to integrate with the shared use cycle / footway, along to the north of the A428, Crick Road and secure cycle parking will be conveniently located within the station forecourt area.

The station will also act as a Park and Ride facility, allowing station users to leave their cars and transfer to the rail network for the remainder of their journey.

### **How does the scheme integrate with Warwickshire County Council's net zero ambitions?**

Rugby Parkway Station supports a behaviour change, encouraging people from travel by private car and onto public transport reducing congestion and pollution.

For those that choose to travel to / from the station by electric car there is provision for EV charging points.

Further Warwickshire County Council is keen to encourage passengers to switch to sustainable options from journey outset, and is currently exploring options for connectivity with cycling, walking and public transport routes. The outline plans include provision for secure cycle parking, bus stop and taxi pick-up/drop off.

### **Will there be car parking?**

Yes, it is anticipated that Rugby Parkway Station will provide parking for up to 325 vehicles with allocated parking bays for blue badge holders and EV (electric vehicle) charging points. The exact number of spaces will be informed by ongoing passenger demand modelling and Rugby Borough Council's Local Plan parking standards.

### **Will there be a charge for car parking?**

Yes, we are currently working on the assumption that the car parking charges will be the same at both Rugby Parkway Station and Rugby Station. There is already a charge for parking at Rugby Station.

### **What about the impact on neighbouring roads?**

There is no expectation that passengers will park on surrounding roads. Measures will be put in place to prevent this if required, these would be the subject of a separate consultation with residents and businesses.

## **Section 5: Trains and services**

### **What services will there be?**

Current timetable modelling allows for two trains per hour in each direction travelling from Birmingham New Street to London Euston and London Euston to Birmingham New Street. These services will also call at Rugby Station.

### **What impact has the COVID-19 pandemic had on the proposals, are people using rail?**

In April 2022, the Office of Rail and Road announced that passenger numbers were at 80% of pre-COVID-19 levels and are continuing to rise.

Forecast passenger demand for the new station has been updated to reflect the changing demand for rail in a post-COVID world. The demand for the station remains strong and there is a robust business case for the scheme

## **Section 6: Managing the environment**

### **Have you assessed the impact of the station on the local road network?**

The project has sought guidance from Warwickshire County Council's highways team on the extent of the transport impact assessments and surveys required in support of the station proposal. The results of these surveys indicate a minimal impact on the local road network, the phasing of the lights on the new access junction on Crick Road will be critical to minimising the impact during peak travel times.

A Transport Assessment and Road Safety Audit will be submitted as part of the application for outline planning permission.

## **What is the environmental impact of the station?**

The scope, extent and nature of the surveys, assessments and other information required to support the application for outline planning permission has been determined through on-going engagement with local planning authority officers.

The application for outline planning permission will be supported by a number of reports and assessments including noise, air quality, transport, archaeology, drainage, visual impact, ecology and lighting. Copies of these documents will be available to view at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/planningapplications](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/planningapplications) once the planning application has been registered by the Local Planning Authority, Warwickshire County Council.

The reports and assessments will be used to inform the later detailed design process. The project will seek to deliver biodiversity net gain, include embedded mitigation and safeguard land for wildlife.

## **How will the project seek to manage construction?**

Details of how construction will be managed to mitigate the environmental impacts (including noise, vibration, dust, and traffic) will be subject to a planning condition.

At the point of construction there will necessarily be 'out of hours' work at this location because we are building a station on an operational railway line. Neighbours will be kept informed about planned working arrangements so they are aware of and can plan for any disruption.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the impacts on residents and businesses are kept as low as possible during daytime, night, or weekend working.