

COUNCIL 18 SEPTEMBER 2025
AGENDA ITEM 7- ELY JUNCTION CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS
AMENDMENT

Ely Junction capacity improvements

This council expresses its grave concern that the Government's announcement in June of progress on fifty rail and road schemes once again failed to include Ely Junction. The congestion at this bottleneck means it is unable to handle the demand for both freight and passenger services.

Solving this would return £4.89 for every £1 spent; remove 98,000 HGV journeys; enable an additional 2,900 freight services a year from Felixstowe; reduce carbon emissions by 1.7 million tonnes of CO2 over sixty years; and reduce traffic congestion by 5.6 million hours a year.

It is now twenty-three years since the first business case for upgrading the junction was made, and yet successive governments have failed to make the investment in this vital piece of infrastructure for our region and for the country.

This council calls on the Government to release funds for planning the project, conduct a rapid departmental review of the scheme and its benefits to present to the Treasury, and listen to the concerns of the local MP, businesses, and stakeholders including this council at the effect of further delay.

Council agrees to:

- 1. Instruct the Leader to write to the Secretary of State requesting a rethink on the funding of Ely North junction, pointing out the data and statistics available to support the huge benefits available to all concerned for a positive outcome.***
- 2. Provide a copy of the letter to local media to demonstrate that the Council is united in fighting for this important piece of infrastructure for East Cambs and the country.***
- 3. Instruct the Leader to write to British Rail and Network Rail executive management teams asking for their full backing of the planned upgrade, including a request to both bodies for how they think we, the local authority, could further assist with progress on the project.***

Proposer: Cllr Mark Goldsack

Seconder: Cllr Keith Horgan