



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
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Secretary of State for Transport  
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We hope you are keeping safe and well.

In light of the announcement from you about Great British Railways (GBR) looking for a site for its Headquarters, we wanted to take this opportunity to strongly urge you to consider Milton Keynes!

The potential for Milton Keynes is huge. Milton Keynes is on track to be one of the top three cities for economic growth in G4 of 2021, and having GBR's Headquarters will only further benefit the city.

In Milton Keynes, we have a good pool of high-skilled workers which is constantly being added to because the city is now home to the South Central Institute of Technology (SCIoT), MK College and, hopefully, MK:U. These educational institutions will help to train both the next generation of employees as well as existing employees who are wanting to retrain. Furthermore, these educational institutions can train students in Digital, AI and STEM technology, with the capability to alter their curriculum so that it caters for GBR requirements should it need to be changed.

Also, Milton Keynes has a strong transport reputation. We are home to driverless cars, the e-scooter trials, and the highest number of electric car charging points outside of London. Not to forget, that Red Bull Racing, Volkswagen Group UK, Mercedes-Benz and Suzuki all call Milton Keynes home.

As we are sure you are aware, Network Rail's National Operations Centre is currently based here in Milton Keynes, employing nearly 3000 people at its new, purpose build headquarters – Quadrant:MK. This in part because of the location of Milton Keynes. Oxford and Cambridge can be reached by car in under an hour, and soon to be by train. London and Birmingham can be reached by train in under an hour. Plus, the M1 and the A5 mean other cities and destinations are easily accessible.

Milton Keynes has seven train stations located within its boundaries – Milton Keynes Central, Bletchley, Wolverton, Fenny Stratford, Bow Brickhill, Woburn Sands and Aspley Guise. Between these seven lines, Milton Keynes is served by the West Coast Main Line, London North-Western and the Marston Line, with HS2 and the East West Rail Line due to pass through Milton Keynes as well.





Bletchley Train Station is currently benefiting from two pieces of Government funding. Firstly, the East West Rail is being built which will connect Oxford to Cambridge by rail and pass-through Bletchley. This will allow residents from these three places, and stops along the line, to travel quickly, comfortably and more affordably, for work, leisure or recreational purposes. Secondly, Bletchley Train Station is benefiting from the Towns Fund Deal, which Bletchley and Fenny Stratford successfully received £23 million. Part of this funding is being used to upgrade and transform Bletchley Train Station in conjunction with Network Rail, London North-Western and the East West Rail. Once the work is done, Bletchley Train Station will be state-of-the-art and help the Town Centre to be rejuvenated.

Wolverton is one of the most historic railway towns in the country and Wolverton Works remains the longest continuously open railway works in the world. It has even been home to the Royal Train since the 1800s. The Government's Levelling Up agenda should not just be targeted at northern towns, Wolverton can reap the benefits of calling Great British Railways home and would revitalise its local High Street and bring pride to our communities who have seen generations of their family working at Wolverton Works.

In addition, Milton Keynes sits in the centre of the Oxford - Milton Keynes – Cambridge Arc (OxCam Arc), the United Kingdom's Silicon Valley. The OxCam Arc supports over two million jobs and adds over £110 billion to the economy every year. By placing the GBR Headquarters in the OxCam Arc, the Government can show its long-term commitment to one of the fastest growing economies in England.

Great British Railways will not be the first to call Milton Keynes home to their new Headquarters. Santander's new headquarters are being built in Central Milton Keynes, across the road from Milton Keynes Central Train Station. This is a huge sign of confidence in Milton Keynes from a business perspective and it will not be the last business or organisation to capitalise on the success and potential this city can offer.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the possibility of Milton Keynes being home to the Great British Railway Headquarters and why we believe it is the best place for it to be. Alternatively, we would love to welcome you to Milton Keynes and show you its strong rail links, history and future.

If either of us can be of further help or provide any more information, please do let us know.

*Tom*



Ben Everitt MP  
Member of Parliament for Milton Keynes North



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