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Old Oak Overground interchange moves closer

Tags: overground, Peter Hendy, old oak common, hs2, central line, depot, heathrow express, feasibility, willesden junction, wrath

Crossrail is poised to gain a station at Old Oak Common, if government plans for High Speed 2 proceed as planned, and there has been much speculation about how this could link in to the web of railway lines in the area. According to London's transport commissioner Peter Hendy, Transport for London should be in a position to put forward proposals for a major rail interchange by the end of February.

In the government's High Speed 2 phase two command paper, published in January 2013, transport secretary Patrick McLoughlin says that as part of the first phase of HS2 there will be a new interchange station at Old Oak Common in west London where passengers will be able to connect to Crossrail, the Heathrow Express, the Great Western Main Line and other local public transport.

In an update to the TfL board on 6 February, Peter Hendy notes that TfL is reviewing the initial preliminary designs for the HS2 phase one route route in London, in particular the new stations at Euston and Old Oak Common. The designs incorporate a number of TfL requirements including the need to ensure that any designs meet or exceed TfL standards such as step free access throughout the LU station at Euston station. Designs are being reviewed by staff across TfL with comments being fed back to HS2 Ltd.

Hendy says TfL is progressing work on the feasibility of an Overground station at Old Oak Common in conjunction with with HS2 Ltd, National [presumably Network] Rail and the DfT. The feasibility study will consider the engineering/constructability, operational and economic/business case impacts. The assessment is planned to conclude by the end of February 2013 after which he says the Department for Transport will discuss the most appropriate route forward with the Mayor of London.

The nearest London Overground stations to Old Oak Common are Willesden Junction and Kensal Green. North Acton, on the London Underground Central line, is located on the edge of the Old Oak Common area. Plans for Old Oak Common are complicated by it being the location for Crossrail's main train depot and the ambition of Hammersmith & Fulham Council for a major development of the site (TB 8014) (TB 5668).

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How it could look - Old Oak Common with Crossrail depot plus Crossrail/HS2 interchange station

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