

east west RAIL & infrastructure regionalism

What is East-West Rail?

EWR is a major infrastructure project in England aiming to connect Oxford to Cambridge and beyond. Services from Oxford to Milton Keynes are slated to start running in 2025, with other segments at various stages of construction. A project of this scale has weighty implications for the evolution of the region in the future, but it is uncertain to what degree it is factoring into local planning decisions.

About the region

England's Economic Heartland (EEH) is the regional transport body overseeing this area, and is working with EWR Co. to make the project a success; not just for the immediate environs of the stations along the route, but ensuring the benefits also reach beyond to the surrounding settlements via integrated transport links. However, is their vision being reflected in local plans?

Infrastructure Regionalism

This is a framework for viewing regions through their infrastructure and vice versa, whether that be transport, water, waste or other networks. The scale and importance of these networks mean they are instrumental in the functioning of society, so proponents of this framework posit that infrastructure and its regional structures should be considered holistically in the planning process.

aim

To examine EWR through the lens of infrastructure regionalism and find out how it is factoring in to local planning decisions

objectives

- Examine** EEH's plans from an infrastructure regionalism standpoint
- Find out** to what degree local authorities along the route are considering EWR and planning for it
- Study** how EWR has involved surrounding and connecting areas

methodology

Interviews with representatives of local planning authorities in the region which will be impacted by EWR, informed by a literature review on infrastructure regionalism theory as well as publications by EWR Co. & EEH on their regional strategies



Map of England's Economic Heartland and East-West Rail

East West Rail Co. | Media Resources | Maps

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