



Noticeboard

Businesses' future growth will be 'damaged' without early investment in West Anglia Main Line

Significant improvements to the West Anglia Main Line between London and Cambridge are needed to enable the region to fulfil its economic potential.

That was the conclusion from those attending a West Anglia Taskforce event held jointly by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, South East Local Enterprise Partnership, and the London-Stansted-Cambridge Consortium on 23 May 2016 at the Rhodes.

The West Anglia Main Line is a vital part of the region's infrastructure and links key towns including Bishop's Stortford with Cambridge, Stansted Airport, London Liverpool Street and Stratford. At present the two track railway is not able to cope with the mix of train services on it or accommodate a predicted 39% future growth in passenger numbers. The West Anglia Taskforce is calling for investment into a package of improvements that include two new rail tracks between London and Hertfordshire to provide the faster, more reliable and frequent rail service that is needed for businesses to thrive.

The London-Stansted-Cambridge Consortium used the event to call for a series of early upgrades that would improve journey times and capacity as early as 2021, and not 2033 - as predicted by Network Rail - and at the same time secure the maximum value from the Government's investment in the proposed Crossrail 2.

Mark Prisk, MP for Bishop's Stortford, said: "This investment is long overdue. The railway line links two economic drivers for the UK economy: Cambridge and The City of London. Stansted is a hugely important asset here but without investment in the train line how will it cope with the expected growth in passenger numbers?"

Cllr Linda Haysey, East Herts District Council leader and Hertfordshire LEP Board Member, also called on businesses

to help make the economic case for investment to Government and call for action sooner rather than later. She said "Hertfordshire LEP actively supports the West Anglia Main Line improvements and Crossrail 2. We are currently refreshing the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan and the West Anglia Main Line is emerging as a key priority."

Cllr John Barfoot, Bishop's Stortford East and Chair of Business Stortford said: "I fully support an upgraded West Anglia Main Line as a faster and more frequent rail service would deliver a significant economic boost to the London, Stansted, Cambridge corridor. Better transport links between London and Cambridge would be welcomed by the business community in Bishop's Stortford and make it an even more attractive base for European and international businesses."

Dr Neville Prior, CEO and Chairman of Cornelius Group in Bishop's Stortford, a leading European manufacturer and distributor of speciality chemicals said: "A properly integrated transport system that supports international business is absolutely critical. As easily as a business can move into the area it can also move out if conditions are not right. There are costs for doing and not doing anything."

Have your say

In response to a question from Chamber Chairman, Steve Cooper, about how we can urge Government to act, Mark Prisk MP replied: "Ministers want to hear the views of businesses. Help us to bang the drum to make sure our voice is heard loud and clear in Whitehall."

Businesses in the area are urged to contact Stephen King at the London-Stansted-Cambridge Consortium to actively support the campaign - stephen.king@lsc.co

The Chamber's Charity

Two years of fund raising by the Chamber has provided the funds to buy a much needed hoist for St Clare.

The Hospice were asked what piece of equipment would be a greatest help to the staff at the In-patient Unit, and they requested the hoist. Accordingly, we set about raising funds by a variety of means, including Golf Days, quizzes and shaking buckets at Tottenham Hale.

At a recent visit to Hastingwood, Chairman Steve Cooper presented Sue Fishpool of St Clare with a cheque for £7545 for the purchase of the hoist, which is already being put to use.

The new Chamber Charity is St Elizabeth's Centre in Much Hadham, and again the target is to buy a useful item of equipment. St Elizabeth's have chosen a wheelchair bicycle - plans are already in hand for events to raise funds.



Bishop's Stortford College

Independent Co-educational Day and Boarding 4-18 years

Bishop's Stortford College is seeking sponsors for their hugely popular **Festival of Literature**, which will be running in February 2017.

For more details, please contact

Sarah Gowans:

marketing@bishopsstortfordcollege.org

Festival of Literature

Welcome new members

Jonathan Stratford	Knight Frank
Jim Tatchell	Circadian FX
Sylvia Green	Nuffield Health
Angela Westgarth	The Personal Property Shop

Forthcoming Events

- 15th June Harlow Chamber Breakfast Manor of Groves
- 5th July Chamber Breakfast
- 20th July Quarterly Business Lunch
- 6th Oct. Meet the Buyers
- 19th Oct. Bishop's Stortford Means Business

BISHOP'S STORTFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

networking breakfast

SUPPORTING



Great Hadham Golf & Country Club
Great Hadham Road, Much Hadham

Tuesday 5th July 2016
8am for 8.30am

Alan Wolfe & Stephen Manual
Station Commander

East Herts & Broxbourne
Fire & Rescue Service

£15 prebooked • £17.50 on the day
(Bookings cancelled after 28th June 2016 will be charged)

East Herts employers needed to support popular schools programme



The Careers & Enterprise Company is an exciting new programme aimed at forging closer ties between schools and employers.

At its heart are local employers, from large corporates to SMEs, who act as Enterprise Advisers to schools/colleges by working with senior leadership teams to:

- help connect the curriculum to future work opportunities;
- provide access to workplaces;
- act as relatable role models to young people.

The Careers & Enterprise Company is being successfully rolled out across the county by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) in partnership with Youth Connexions (Hertfordshire County Council).

Around 50 schools have already signed up to take part with more coming on board each week. Thanks to its popularity The Careers & Enterprise Company is encouraging more employers in the A10/M11

Area including towns such as Broxbourne, Bishop's Stortford, Hertford and surrounding areas to come forward. To date there are around 10 schools in the East Herts area which are waiting to be matched to a local employer.

Typically Enterprise Advisers are senior leadership volunteers from the local business community who can commit to a minimum of eight days over a 12 month period, assisted by Enterprise Co-ordinators.

Adrian Hawkins, sits on the Hertfordshire LEP Board and chairs its Skills and Employment Board. He said: "We are proud to be part of this nationwide initiative to empower young people to succeed in their future careers and tailor skills provision to match enterprise activities in the county."

For more information contact Senior Enterprise Co-ordinator Daniel Gendle.

Email: daniel.gendle@hertfordshirelep.co.uk.
Mobile: **07464 678767**.



BSMB
Wednesday 19th
October 2016
Rhodes,
Bishop's Stortford
[www@bsmb.co.uk](http://www.bsmb.co.uk)

LONDON STANSTED
MEET THE BUYERS 2016
 THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER
 9AM TO 5PM

www.stanstedmtb.co.uk



Chamber Business
Lunch with **Andrew Cowan,**
CEO Stansted Airport

Wednesday 20th July
12pm for 12.30pm
Price £22
 Includes VAT

Stansted Hilton
 Round Coppice Road
 Stansted, CM24 1SF.

Places are strictly limited, to book yours, please email Chamber Secretary, Daliah at secretary@bschamber.org

View from the Chair



The past 2 months have been dominated by the Brexit debate. On a personal level, I have found the quality of the debate to be very disappointing and I do not currently feel qualified or comfortable in making a decision that may have significant implications for my children and my grandson.

That said, I am confident that, whatever the referendum result, the UK, Bishop's Stortford and its well-run businesses will continue to thrive and adapt to the changing economic environment.

On a local level, it is disappointing to read that several retailers have announced that they will be closing their outlets in the town centre. If you are a retailer, what can be done at a local level to ensure that your business remains viable? The Chamber of Commerce would welcome your views so that we can discuss your concerns with East Herts District Council and with the Local Enterprise Partnership – the latter is currently undertaking a project on how to preserve and improve our town centre.

I am delighted that the new Managing Director of Stansted Airport, Andrew Cowan, has agreed to speak at our next lunch on Wednesday, 20 July. The continued growth and development of the airport offers opportunities to all businesses in our area and please keep the date free in your diaries - further details will follow.

Lastly, a polite reminder to our members - please complete and return the Survey that was sent to you last month. We are collating the responses and will provide our feedback in the next edition of Noticeboard.

Steve Cooper
Chairman: Bishop's Stortford Chamber of Commerce

Sponsor Opportunity

Would your company like to sponsor the Noticeboard?

Noticeboard is printed 6 times a year and distributed to all Chamber members, business contacts, libraries and points of information.

Sponsors get an advertisement as a part of the package, which costs only £100.

Please contact Daliah, Chamber Secretary on: 01279 505 953



Members Offers

New Chamber member Circadian FX Solutions, founded by local entrepreneur and resident Jim Tatchell, has recently been set up to lower the cost of doing business overseas as well as to raise awareness and transparency in the foreign exchange business, please visit www.circadianfx.com.

He has also offered to donate 30% of any profits gained from introductions by Chamber members to this year's chosen charity. You can contact Jim on 07412 941966 or jim.tatchell@circadianfx.com.

Does your business have an offer for fellow Chamber members? If so contact Daliah, Chamber Secretary at secretary@bschamber.org