RC Centro Northamptonshire **Roade Parish Council briefing** 21 April 2017



### What is Rail Central?

- A Strategic Rail Freight Interchange (SRFI)
- A response to increasing consumer demands for wider product choice and faster deliveries
- A response to industry demands for fast, efficient and sustainable supply chains
- A response to Government policy for expansion of rail freight, to help decarbonise transport, address global climate change and reduce long-distance lorry traffic
- An opportunity to underpin South Northamptonshire's economy inc. 8,000 jobs
- A significant inward investment opportunity
- A planning proposal being developed for submission later this year



#### What is an SRFI? – Government definition

"A Strategic Rail Freight Interchange (SRFI) is a large multi-purpose rail freight interchange and distribution centre linked into both the rail and trunk road system. It has rail-connected warehousing and container handling facilities and may also include manufacturing and processing activities."

National Planning Statement for National Networks (NPS NN), 2014







#### New dedicated access via A43







## What's special about Rail Central?

- A national distribution hub, linking deep-sea ports and land-bridge services to mainland Europe and China with the rest of Britain
- The only SRFI capable of access to two separate main line routes, both with electrification and enough headroom for tall containers
- The only SRFI offering a complete suite of rail freight interchange facilities (intermodal, conventional and express) with main line access optimised for both express (WCML) and standard speed freight trains
- The only SRFI capable of handling and maintaining freight trains, reducing the need for empty train movements to and from the main line
- Track layout alongside main line allows trains to serve the site en route to/from other SRFI, increasing opportunities for joint working



#### Consultation

- Consulting in line with an agreed SoCC
- Formal Phase One started 28 April and ended 21 October 2016
- 8 public exhibitions attended by approximately 1,000 people
- Local Liaison Group established
- Approximately 300 submitted pieces of feedback
- Variety of issues and themes
- Design continues to evolve some important changes made
- Further public exhibitions as part of Phase Two from September
- Consultation informs both scheme design and mitigation



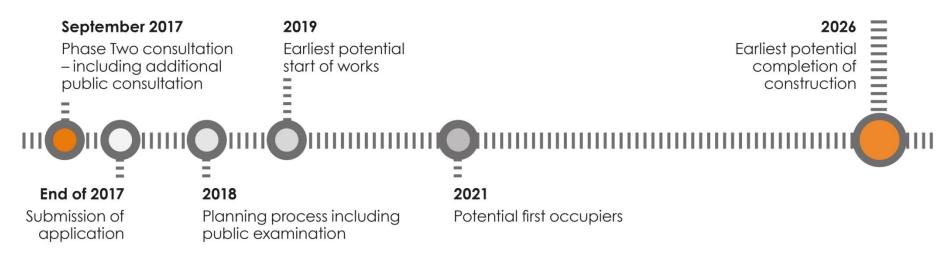
#### What we've been doing since Phase 1

- Developing all supporting technical studies and assessments
- Preparing the draft Environmental Statement
- Assessing feedback and taking it into the design process
- Highways modelling with the new Northants CC model
- Refining Rail design inc access points and layout
- Developing our Landscape and ecological mitigation strategy
- Community Benefits programme
- All activities that feed into the Phase 2 consultation



#### Timetable

#### **Timeline**



# RCI Centro Northamptonshire