

2nd April 2001

Building a Better Railway: SRA Starts Next Step for East London Line Extension

The creation of a new cross London railway moved a step closer today as £39 million of funding was released by the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) for a new rail link between the Underground and the National Rail network.

The East London Line extension is designed to link London Underground's East London Line with Railtrack's North London Line at Dalston. Today's funding announcement kick starts the project development needed to enable initial engineering work to begin later this year.

Today's funding move follows the SRA's recent announcement of plans for design and development work on the scheme and will ensure the project is kept on schedule, with the Authority working in close partnership Transport for London, London Underground and Railtrack.

Notes to Editors

1. LUL will use its existing powers to safeguard the route, which runs over the former Broad Street line between Shoreditch and Dalston.
2. On the 1 February the SRA announced plans for design development work for the proposed extension of the East London Line, integrating Underground services with the national rail network as a North-South rail link across London.
3. The proposal to extend the ELL has the full backing of the Mayor and a scheme has been developed by London Underground. It involves extending the ELL which currently runs from New Cross / New Cross Gate to Shoreditch. The extension will run northwards to Dalston and Highbury (linking in with the North London Line).
4. A southwards extension is also planned to link into the national rail network to serve destinations such as Peckham, Dulwich, Streatham, Wimbledon, Sydenham and Croydon. These southern links are dependent on the outcome of a Transport and Works Act inquiry. The inquiry Inspector reported to DETR Ministers at the end of last year.

**For further details contact the Department for Transport Rail Press desk:
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