

# The Development Consent Order (DCO) process

The proposed new railway between Bedford and Cambridge has been designated as a project of national significance. This means East West Railway Company (EWR Co) apply to the Secretary of State for Transport for a Development Consent Order (DCO) in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 to get approval to build and operate the new railway. The DCO process is governed by the Planning Act 2008 and has six stages:

