

# The Abbey Wood experience: The birth pains of a new interchange

**Interchange Matters Seminar  
London Travelwatch, 2 June 2016**

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# Abbey Wood as it used to be

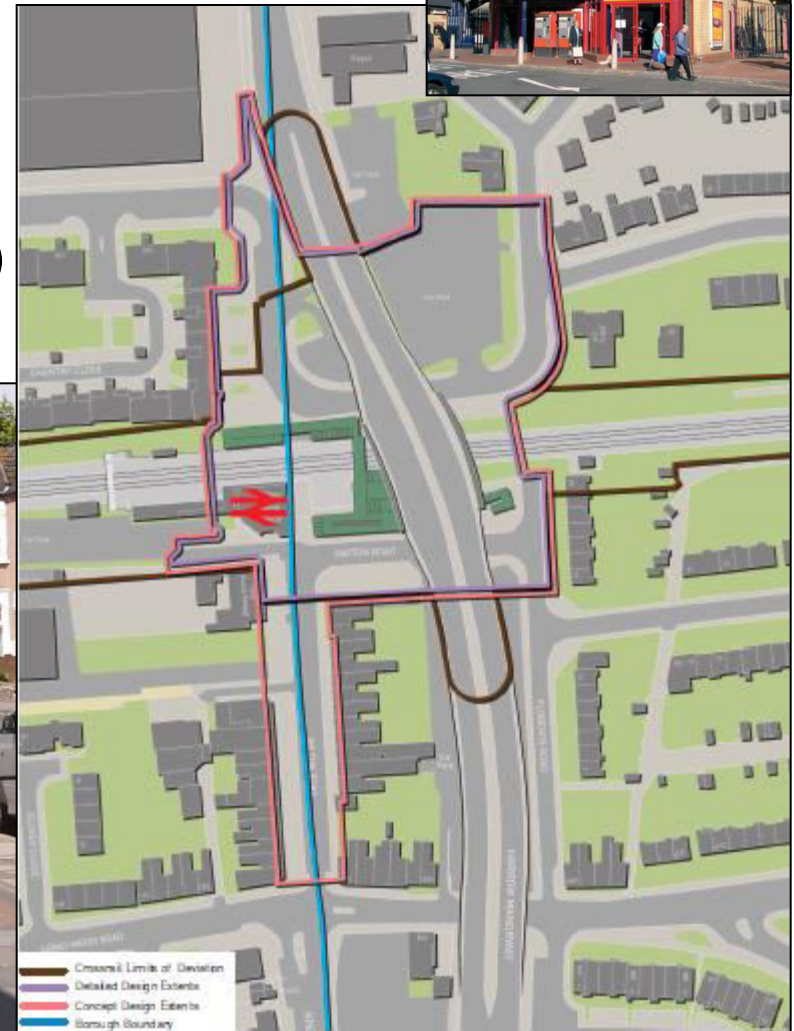


# Thamesmead (and Housing Zone)



# Pre-Crossrail

- Station rebuilt 1986
- Flyover N-S
- Separate ramps and steps N-S
- Bus stops on and below flyover
- Parking under flyover (105+155)
- Station car park (90)



# Abbey Wood's buses

Basic 35 bph:

## Route finder

Bus route	Towards	Bus stops
<b>177</b>	Peckham	<b>R</b>
	Thamesmead	<b>S</b>
<b>180</b>	Belvedere Industrial Area	<b>A C H T</b>
	Lewisham	<b>B A D K V</b>
<b>229</b>	Sidcup	<b>B A D E</b>
	Thamesmead	<b>A C G L</b>
<b>244</b>	Woolwich Common	<b>A C G</b>
<b>401</b>	Bexleyheath	<b>T</b>
	Thamesmead	<b>V</b>
<b>469</b>	Erith	<b>B A D E S</b>
	Woolwich Common	<b>A G J L R</b>
<b>B11</b>	Bexleyheath	<b>D E P T W</b>
	Thamesmead	<b>G J L N V</b>

## Night buses

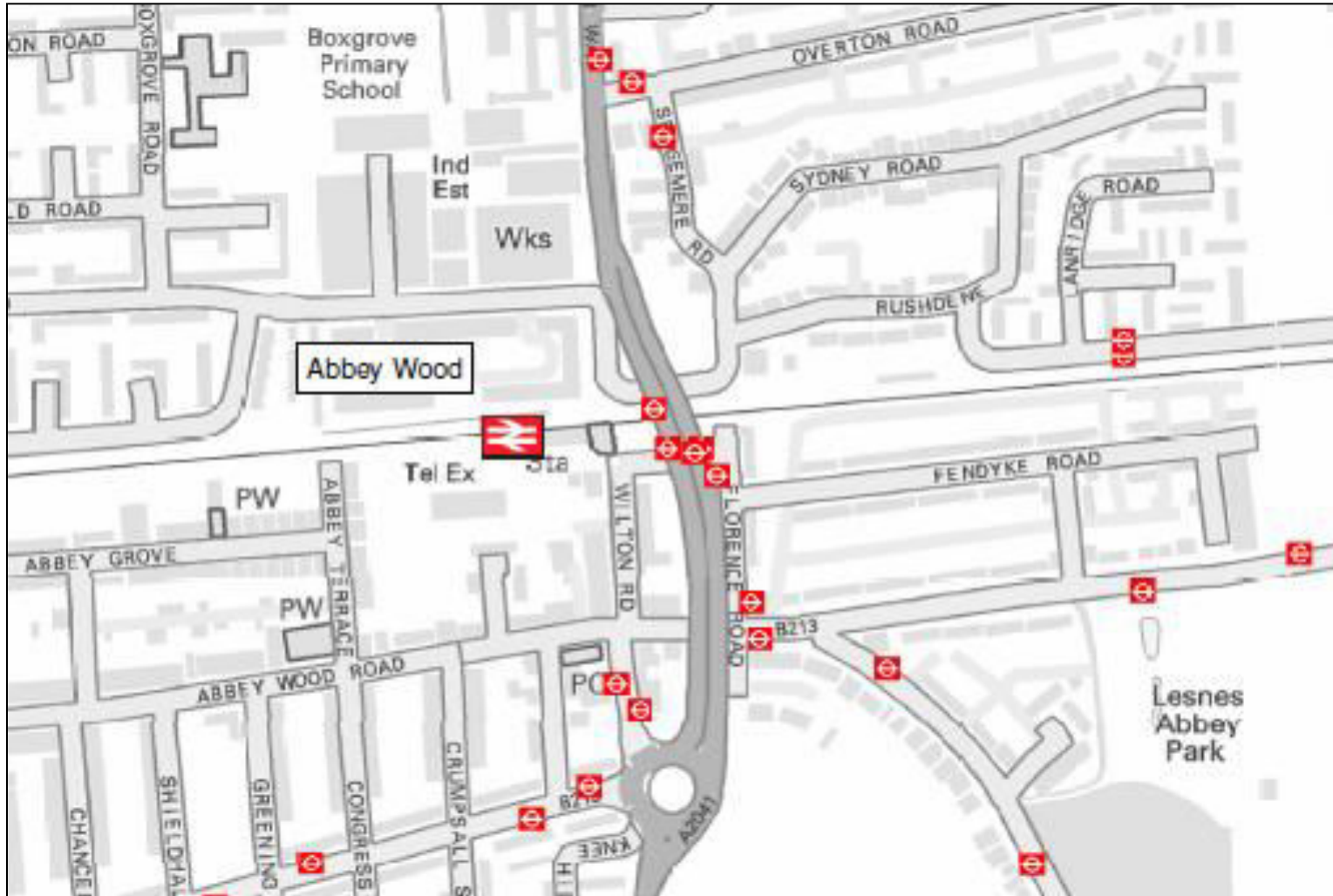
Bus route	Towards	Bus stops
<b>N1</b>	Thamesmead	<b>A C H</b>
	Tottenham Court Road	<b>B A D K</b>

## Other buses

Bus route	Towards	Bus stops
<b>601 Sch</b>	Thamesmead	<b>V</b>
	Wilmington Hall School	<b>T</b>
<b>602 Sch</b>	Thamesmead	<b>A C G L</b>
	Townley Grammar School	<b>B A D E</b>
<b>669 Sch</b>	Cleeve Park School	<b>B A D E</b>
	Thamesmead	<b>A C G L</b>



# Abbey Wood: bus stops





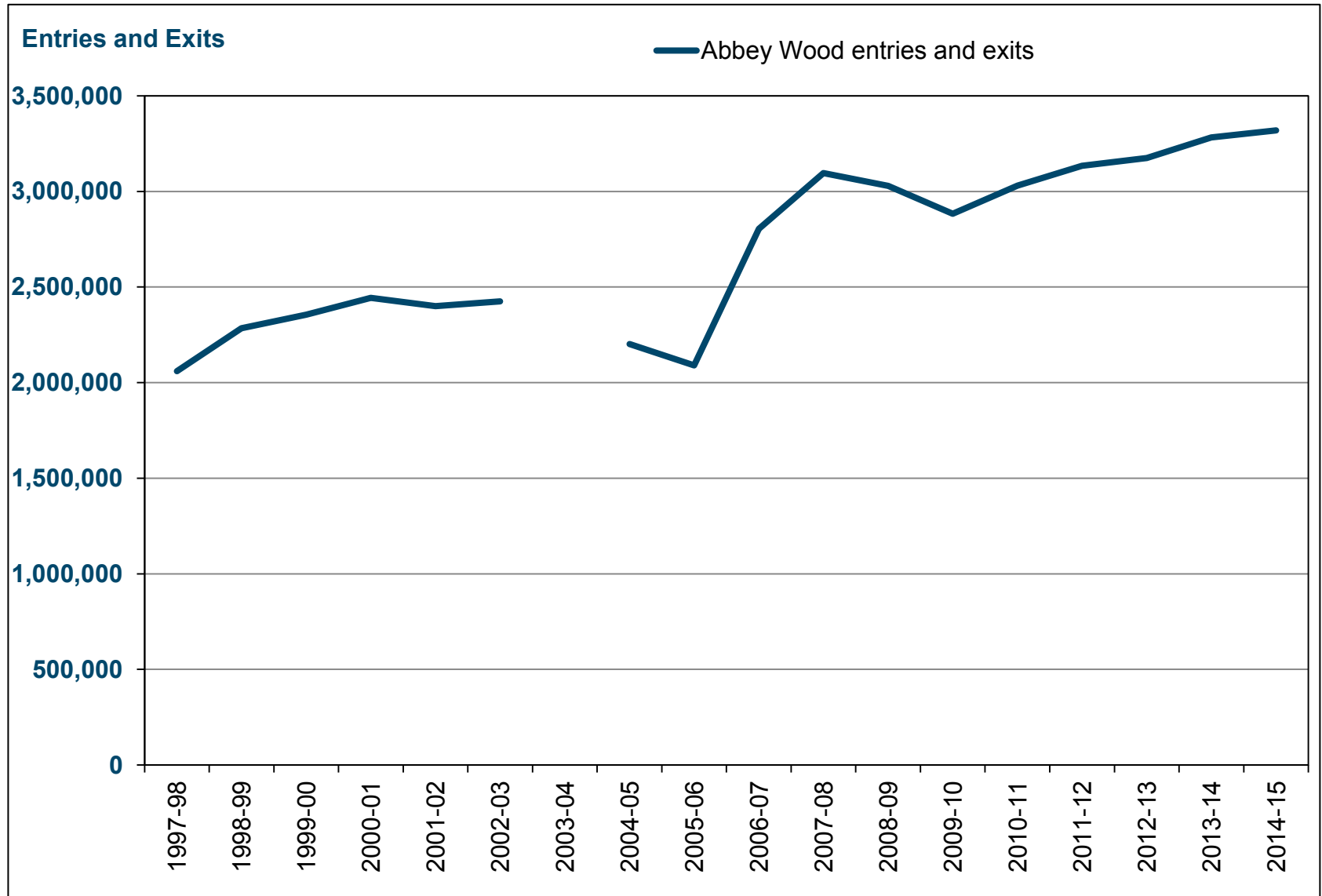
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# ORR Station Demand Data



# Crossrail: the game changer

- New Abbey Wood station opens October 2017
- Crossrail services start December 2018
- 12 tph peak, 8 tph off peak – as well as NKL
- Construction well advanced



	To Canary Wharf	To City	To West End
North Kent Line	41 min Change at Greenwich (DLR)	30 min Direct to Cannon Street	40 min Direct to Charing Cross
Crossrail	<b>11 min</b> Direct to Canary Wharf	<b>20 min</b> Direct to Farringdon	<b>23 min</b> Direct to Tottenham Court Road

## Movements into and out of Abbey Wood Station AM Peak Period (7am - 10am)

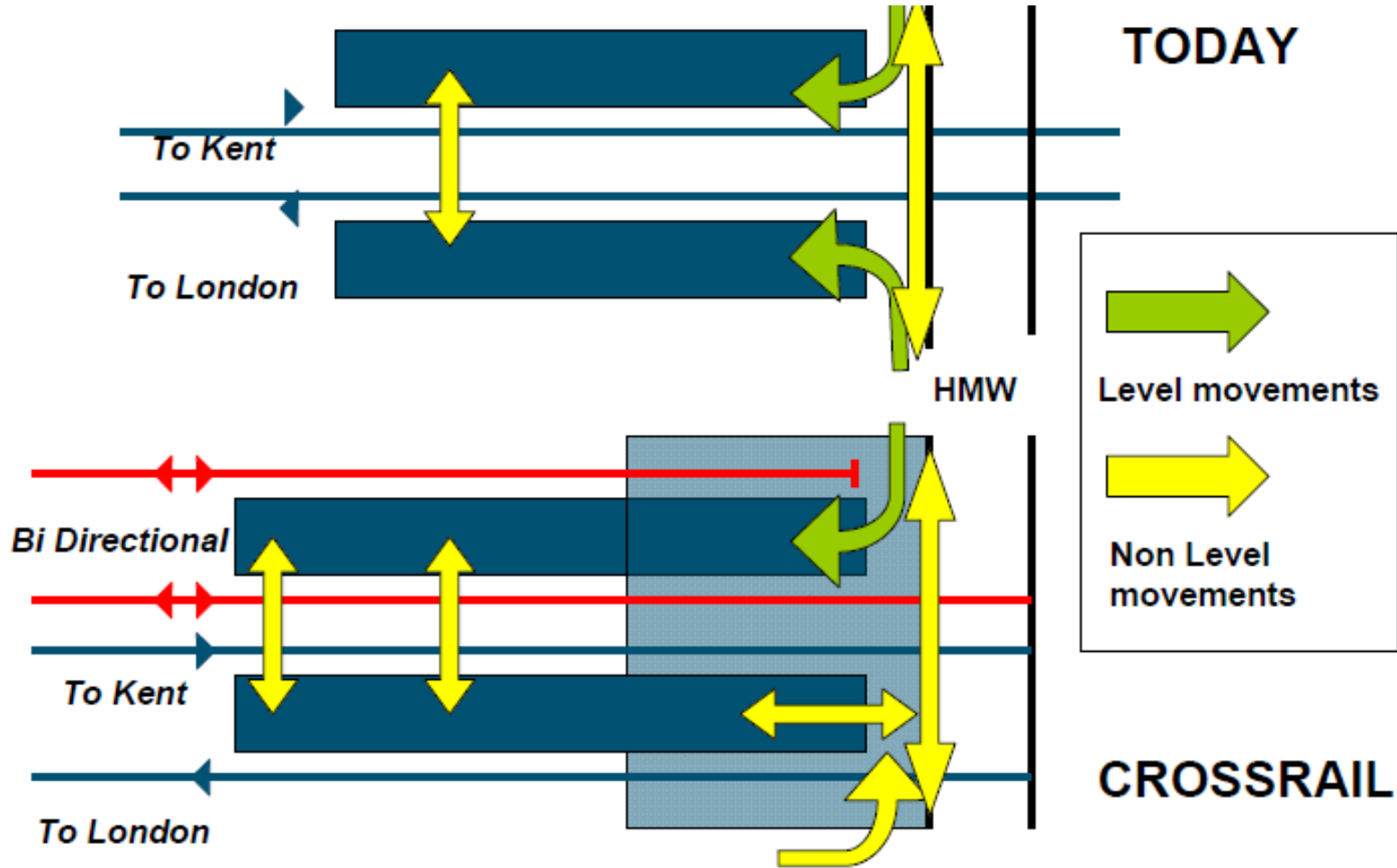
Scenario	In	Out	Total (2-way)
<b>2001 Observed</b>	3,500	150	3,650
<b>2010 Observed</b>	3,340	461	3,801
<b>2016 without Crossrail (forecast)</b>	4,050	450	4,500
<b>2016 with Crossrail (forecast)</b>	8,050	1,250	9,300
<b>2026 with Crossrail (forecast)</b>	8,700	1,400	10,100

## Potential demand increase by mode (am peak)

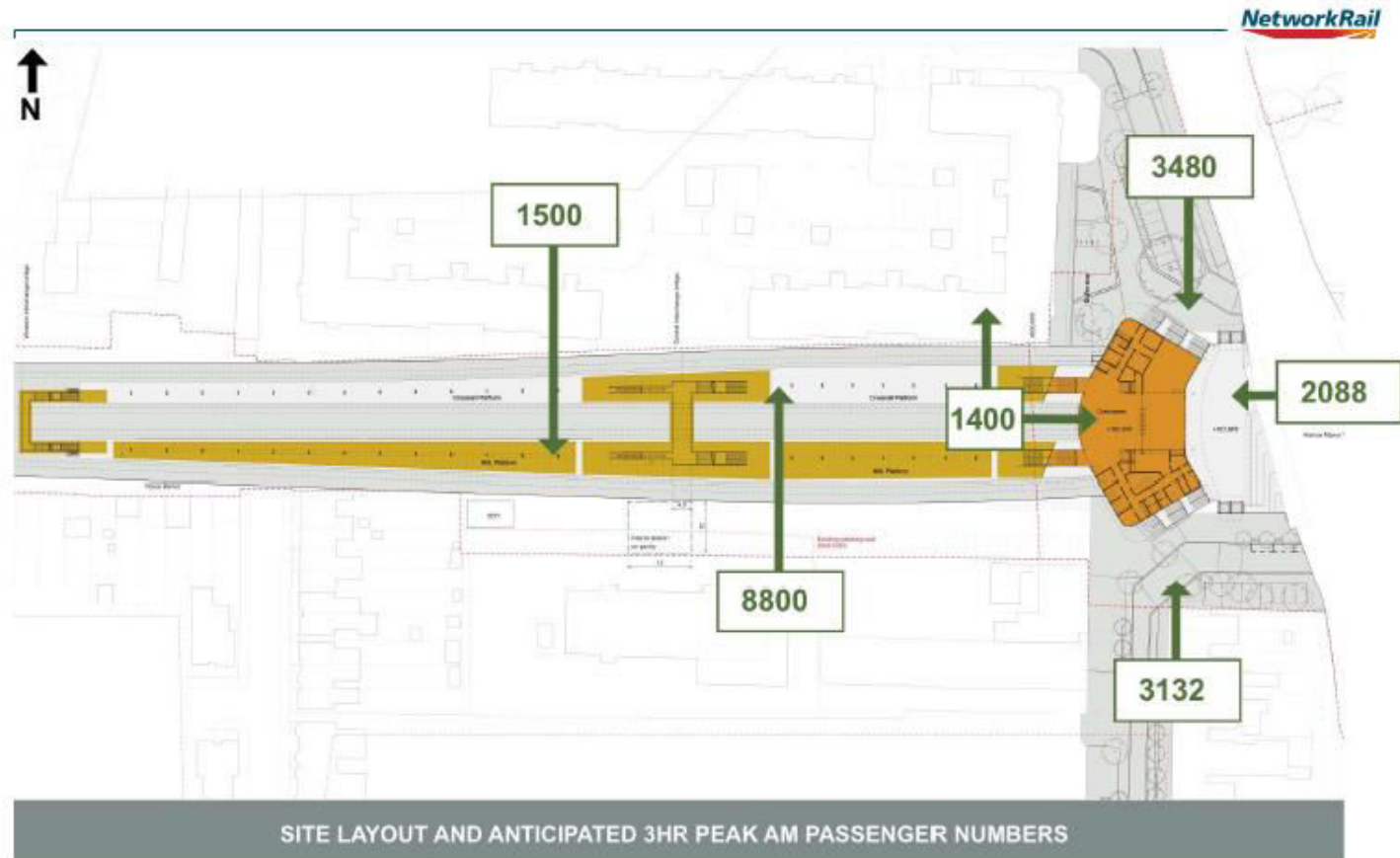
Abbey Wood AM peak period modal split		Car	Car Drop off	Taxi	Bus	Cycle	Walk	Total
2010	Mode split (%)	13%	13%	1%	14%	0%	59%	100%
	Persons	435	435	34	480	0	1,956	3,340
2016 With Crossrail	Mode split (%)	30%	12%	1%	24%	3%	30%	100%
	Persons	2,402	990	82	1,932	242	2,402	8,050
Demand Uplift	Increase (%)	<b>552%</b>	<b>228%</b>	<b>241%</b>	<b>403%</b>	--	<b>123%</b>	<b>241%</b>
	Increase (persons)	<b>1,967</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>4,710</b>

Source: Arup's Abbey Wood station transport assessment, 2012

# Passenger movement



# People movements – AM Peak 3hr



# Station proposals – original design





# Station design process

- High quality essential
- Meeting future passenger demand
- Quality of interchange
- Maintain north-south pedestrian movement
- Initial design – rejected
- New design – more collaborative process
- Both boroughs involved by Network Rail
- Excellent station design emerged
- But: cross-platform interchange was lost

# Design collaboration

“Satellite”



“Arrow”



“Circle”







# Features of the new station

- Connections between NKL and Crossrail
- Three inter-platform crossing points
  - East end: steps + lifts
  - Central: steps + escalators (pk direction)
  - West end: steps only
- Fully accessible (lifts/escalators)
- Staffed full time by MTR
- MTR responsible for lifts in public areas
- Excellent passenger information points
- Maintain good access to buses

# Public Realm improvements

- Emerged from CRL Urban Integration Study
- £6.6m project (most £££ on surface Crossrail)
- Three elements:
  - South side (Gayton Road/Wilton Road)
  - North side (Felixstowe Road)
  - High level (Harrow Manorway flyover)
- Funding from:
  - TfL Crossrail Complementary Measures (CCM)
  - Network Rail (within the LOD)
  - Bexley (PM) and Greenwich boroughs

# Gayton Road/Wilton Road - before



# Gayton Road/Wilton Road - after





# Felixstowe Road - before



# Felixstowe Road - after



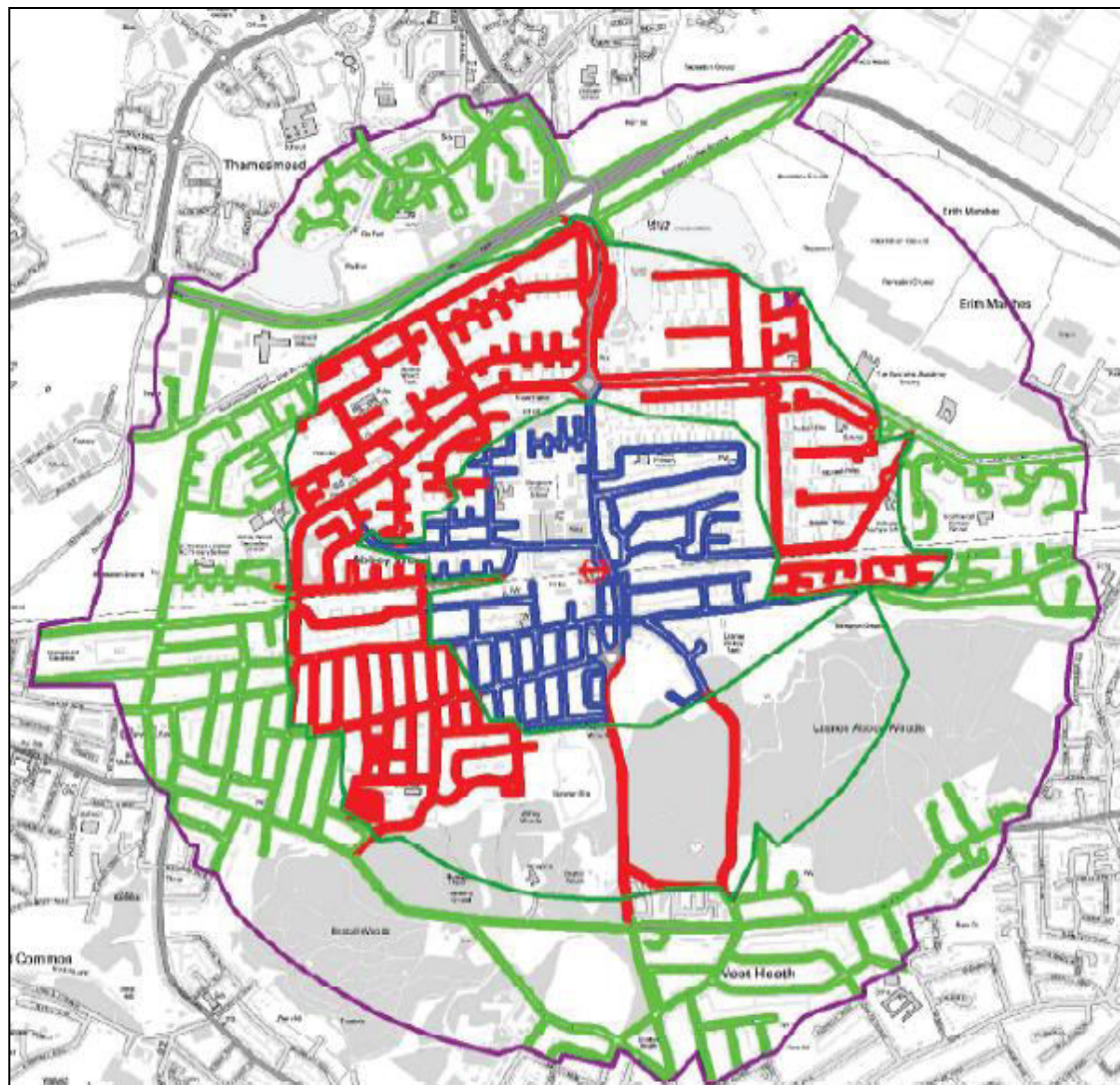
# Harrow Manorway flyover - before



# Harrow Manorway flyover - after



# Review of CPZs



# New and Improved Bus Links

Better connections to Abbey Wood

- TfL investment, plus s106 support
- New routes (eg direct from Bexleyheath)
- Increased frequencies
- Improved connectivity/penetration
- Providing other new connections too

# Abbey Wood Cycle Hub

- Secure cycle parking at each station entrance
- Three stage approach to grow the facility
  - 378 spaces initially. Could grow to 600
  - Expansions triggered at 85% occupancy
- Integrated with public realm project



# Targets for April 2018

- Complete all public realm improvements:
  - S side: Gayton Road/Wilton Road
  - N side: Felixstowe Road
  - High level: Harrow Manorway flyover
  - Cycle parking in place
- Completion of highway and public realm works on Harrow Manor Way north of station
- (New station opens October 2017)



# Targets for December 2018

Crossrail opens to/from Abbey Wood

- Connecting bus links improved
- Major changes in travel patterns
- Limited off street parking
- Extended on street parking controls

# Lessons for the future – What could have been done better?

- The power of the Crossrail Act
  - Limiting powers of the Boroughs
  - Timing of NR submissions
  - He who lives by the sword...
- NR is big! Communication; staff turnover
- Construction – effects of each stage
- Felixstowe Road
- NR's local consultation/information

# More lessons for the future

- Other people have other agendas
- Collaboration: boroughs' “critical friend” role
- Think big, think small
- Keep at it if you really want it
- When needed, bring on the big guns!

# And more to come...

- Further local growth and regeneration
  - (S Thamesmead & Abbey Wood Housing Zone)
- Kicks off W end of N Bexley Growth Area
- Rapid transit feeder from Thamesmead – and a tram one day?
- Thames Crossings – and what they bring
- Crossrail eastern extension?  
(But that's another story...)



Any  
questions?

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