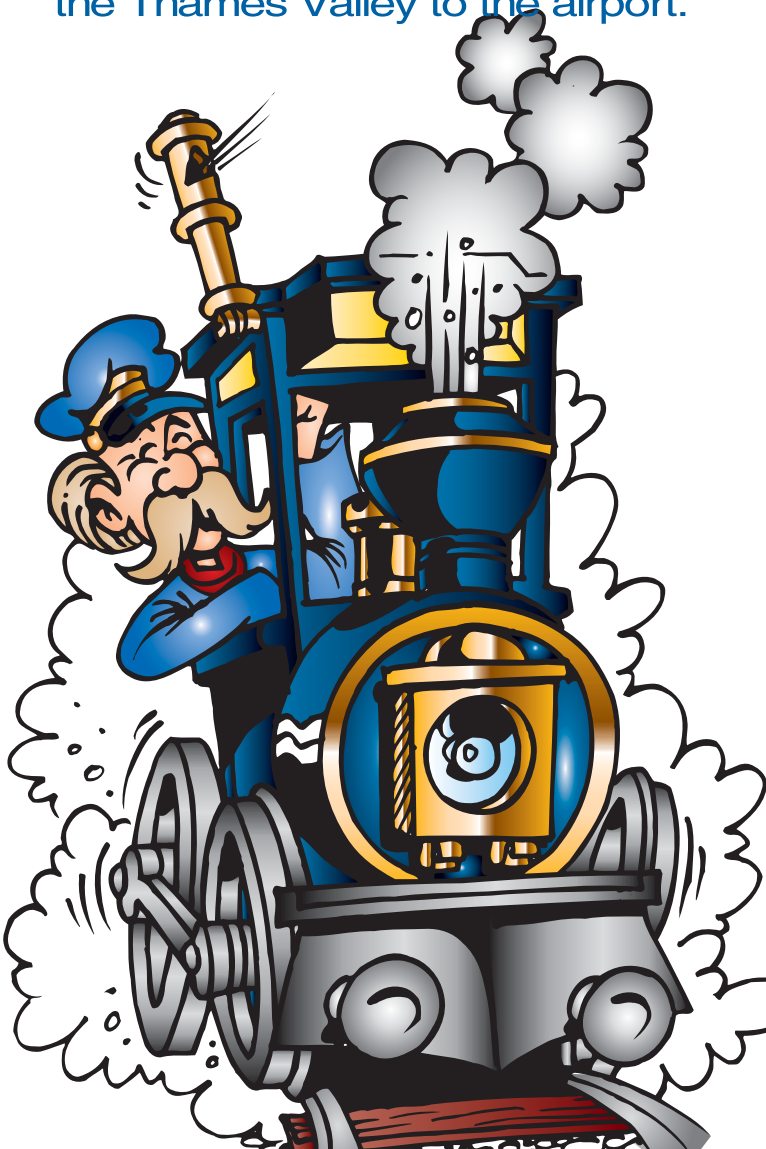


# Businesses need 21st Century transport

Improved access to Heathrow is needed say Business lobbyists who are looking at improved ways to get down the M4.

**A**mong the current suggestions for improved motorway travel is a monorail, new motorway toll lanes and an underground busway to join the Thames Valley to the airport.



Thames Valley Economic Partnership (TVEP) is focusing its campaign for transport improvements on the airport's western access since two of its schemes (Junction 11 and Reading Station expansions) have got approval.

TVEP comments that it is only possible for it to support any further expansion of Heathrow if the commitment to improve its western links are met and urges action on M4 congestion by the government.

Proposals put forward by the TVEP include M4 tolls between the M25 and J13, two extra lanes, and a monorail running along the central reservation. An underground busway linking Thames Valley with towns to the east has also been suggested creating a link between Heathrow and Slough. This would mean implementing hi-tech underground busways set up on special tracks that would run from the airport to Slough and cut the time of arrival for Airtrack and Crossrail.

The TVEP has submitted these radical ideas to ministers and businesses emphasising these innovative solutions.

**Supporting the case for these solutions are the results of the survey of its members which are as follows:**

92% supported the introduction of a rail link to the Great Western Main Line

67% supported measures to improve the capacity of the M4

72% supported introduction of Airtrack (direct rail services from Terminal Five which will link Reading via Bracknell and Wokingham to Guildford and London Waterloo).

TVEP will hold workshops with the Department for Transport to look into the feasibility of these projects.

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