

Timings via Old Oak Common and via Euston

For HS2 passengers alighting at Old Oak Common and wishing to go on to a central London location.

1. Why do or did DfT measure to Bond Street not Oxford Circus or Tottenham Court Road? Getting from Euston to Bond Street involves changing at Oxford Circus (Victoria Line to Central Line), which is bound to add to the timings. Measuring to Bond Street is to OOC's advantage; measuring to Oxford Circus or to Tottenham Court Road is to Euston's advantage. Why is the Northern Line mentioned at all? Going to Bond Street from Euston on the Northern Line via Tottenham Court Road is bound to be slower than going via the Victoria Line to Oxford Circus and changing there to the Central Line.
2. What is the 'Central London' which the government claims HS2 must reach? Euston is not most people's idea of Central London. The Elizabeth Line connects more obviously east to west while Euston connects more obviously north to south.
3. If the timings are generally to OOC's advantage, the interchange facilities at OOC as opposed to Euston should be the other deciding factor. Those at Euston are currently overstretched and not in a position to handle an increased volume of passengers. Integrating Euston Underground and Euston Square will not improve the congestion.
4. Spending a billion pounds on tunnelling to Euston to subtract a few minutes from journeys into 'Central London' is insane. Spending a billion pounds when this **adds** time to most journeys into 'Central London' is worse than insane.
5. For my calculations, based on HOL answers to questions from Tony Berkeley, see below. It is ridiculous that these official answers are based on timings to Bond Street. Accurate official timings should be available for both routes to all main 'Central London' destinations.

Train Times

Train time, HS2 via OOC to Euston

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	6.6 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	12.6 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Train time, Elizabeth Line OOC to Bond Street

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	9.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	9.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Train time, Victoria Line Euston to Oxford Circus;
Central Line Oxford Circus to Bond Street

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	No mention
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	No mention
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Walking Times

Walking time, via HS2 to Euston/Northern Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	16.7 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	16.7 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Walking time, via OOC/Elizabeth Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023, overall	13.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024, overall	13.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024, OOC	5 minutes
Notional walking time left at Bond Street	8.8 minutes
Jeff Travers, walking time measured at Bond Street	2.5 minutes
True walking time, via OOC/Elizabeth Line,	7.5 minutes
Saving of time over walking time via Euston	9.2 minutes

Waiting Times

Waiting time via HS2 to Euston/Northern Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	1.3 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	1.3 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Waiting time, at Euston for Victoria Line and at Oxford Circus for Central Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	No mention
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	No mention
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Waiting time at Euston and Oxford Circus or Tottenham Court Road **must** be more than 1.3 minutes

Waiting time via OOC/Elizabeth Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	1.2 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	1.2 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	No mention

Overall Times

Euston/Northern Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 22 November 2023	24.6 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	24.6 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	30.6 minutes

OOC/Elizabeth Line

Lord Davies of Gower, 22 November 2023	24.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 15 December 2023	24.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 29 January 2024	24.8 minutes
Lord Davies of Gower, 24 May 2024	
Walking time at OOC	5 minutes
Walking time (implicit) at Bond Street	8.8 minutes
Jeff Travers, walking time at Bond Street	2.5 minute
Overestimate by Lord Davies of walking time	6.3 minutes
Overall time, adjusted for overestimate	18.3 minutes

Result

Via Euston and Northern Line	30.6 minutes
Via OOC and Elizabeth Line	18.3 minutes

References – Written Answers: minister to Lord Berkeley 2024: hl 2023, 2020, 2033;1562, 2642; 2721; 2380; 2379; 4676; 4677; 4679; 4680.