



NAGAS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNANCE ADVISORY
SERVICES

**NAGAS
CONFERENCE 2024
INSPIRE, INNOVATE AND
EXPLORE TOGETHER**

**Thursday
10th October 2024
09:30 - 16:45**

**Stadium MK, Milton Keynes,
MK1 1ST**

PROGRAMME

9:30	Welcome & Coffee	
10:15	Introduction <i>Fiona Collier - NAGAS Chair</i>	
10:25	The Future is Not What it Used to be - AI & Technology in Education <i>Abdul Chohan</i>	
11:25	Coffee Break & Networking	
11:45	The Fusion of Education and AI for Smarter Governance <i>Isabella Byrne</i>	
12:45	Lunch (including networking)	
13:45	Insights from NGA research: reflecting on the recruitment, retention and wellbeing of those who govern <i>Emma Balchin - NGA</i>	
14:45	National School Governors' Awareness Day <i>Steve Barker - Strictly Education</i>	
15:00	NAGAS Website Launch <i>John Ashworth - NAGAS Vice-Chair</i>	
15:15	Reflections on the day so far and introduction of networking topics <i>Fiona Collier - NAGAS Chair</i>	
15:20	Coffee/Networking	
16:45	Conference ends	

Speaker Biographies

Abdul Chohan: The Future is Not What it Used to be

Co-Founder Of The Olive Tree School, Bolton, UK and Director of Think Simple Ltd

Abdul Chohan is a teacher of 17 years and is the Founder and Director of Development for The Olive Tree Education Trust in Bolton, UK. He was the former Principal and CEO of the Essa Foundation Academies Trust based in the UK. He is known for his pioneering work on mobile based learning at Essa Academy, Bolton, UK. Since then, he has worked with a number of international educational organisations as well as devising learning strategies based on mobile technology platforms.

In addition to this he is also the Director of ThinkSimple Ltd which is a thought leadership organisation that provides support to schools and Ministries of Education, in terms of Vision and implementation.

His programmes focus on the idea of ‘Changing Belief’ through ‘Simplicity and Reliability’ and have extended beyond the traditional school environment to impact families and the wider communities that the schools serve.

Isabella Byrne: The Fusion of Education and AI for Smarter Governance

Head of Governance & Compliance (DPO) at the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT) and an Accredited Leader for Church School Governance.

Isabella has spent nearly 20 years in education and governance, and 10 years in technical support and database design. She is passionate about how AI and Generative AI can improve education management. In her current leadership role at a large multi-academy trust, Isabella has led innovative projects that use advanced technology to improve administrative tasks:

- Automated Workflows: Simplified the process of onboarding new governors.
- Generative AI: Transformed minute-taking and enhanced communication.
- Data Analytics: Enabled trustees and local academy committees to make data-driven decisions.

Isabella’s work shows the incredible potential of combining education and technology. Her innovations with AI and automation help to:

- Improve governance efficiency.
- Develop forward-thinking educational strategies.
- Save costs, especially important during budget constraints.

This presentation will explore how AI solutions are changing educational leadership, providing a glimpse into the future of smart, efficient, and responsive governance.

Emma Balchin: Insights from NGA research: reflecting on the recruitment, retention and wellbeing of those who govern

Emma has over 25 years’ experience in education, leadership and school improvement. She has significant experience in maintained school and academy governance, both in mainstream settings, and for a PRU and SEMH special school, and has served as an Interim Executive Board (IEB) member.

Emma was appointed Co-CEO alongside Emma Knights in September 2023 and takes the substantive role from September 2024. Prior to this Emma was Director of Professional Development at NGA, a post she held from 2018.

Emma has 12 years of experience working for a local authority, where she supported the provision of services for schools, including the management of governor services, a successful clerking service and delivering the city-wide provision of governor training.

Information

The day delegate rate is **£100** per person. To book your place please complete the [MSForm](#).

Light breakfast, a two-course lunch, refreshments and light snacks will be provided on the day. Access and dietary requirements are requested at the time of booking.

NAGAS will charge each region collectively for the total number of delegates booked from the region. Each regional group will then manage the recharges to each LA/organisation through locally agreed arrangements.

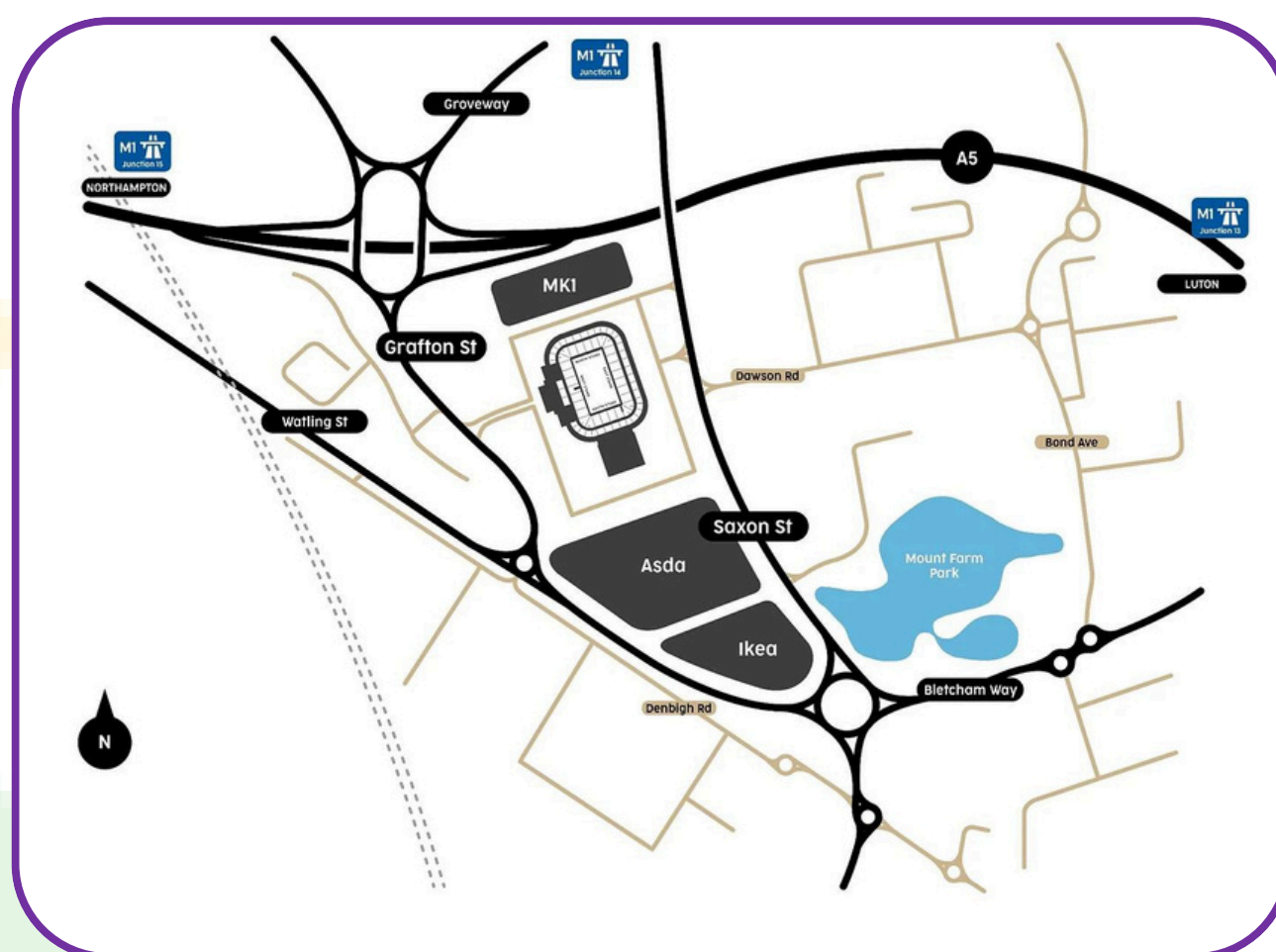
The conference is open to all NAGAS regional members and as places are limited, bookings will be made on a first come, first served basis.

You may cancel your place on the conference by emailing bdaveyclerk@outlook.com no later than 7 days prior to the conference date. The full charge will apply for non-attendance or cancellation by the delegate within 7 working days of the conference date.

To guarantee your place on the conference, please make your booking by no later than Friday 27 September 2024

Conference location

<https://w3w.co/heat.motion.sector>



Using public transport



If you are using public transport to get to the conference, you could use this planner to help you get around Milton Keynes

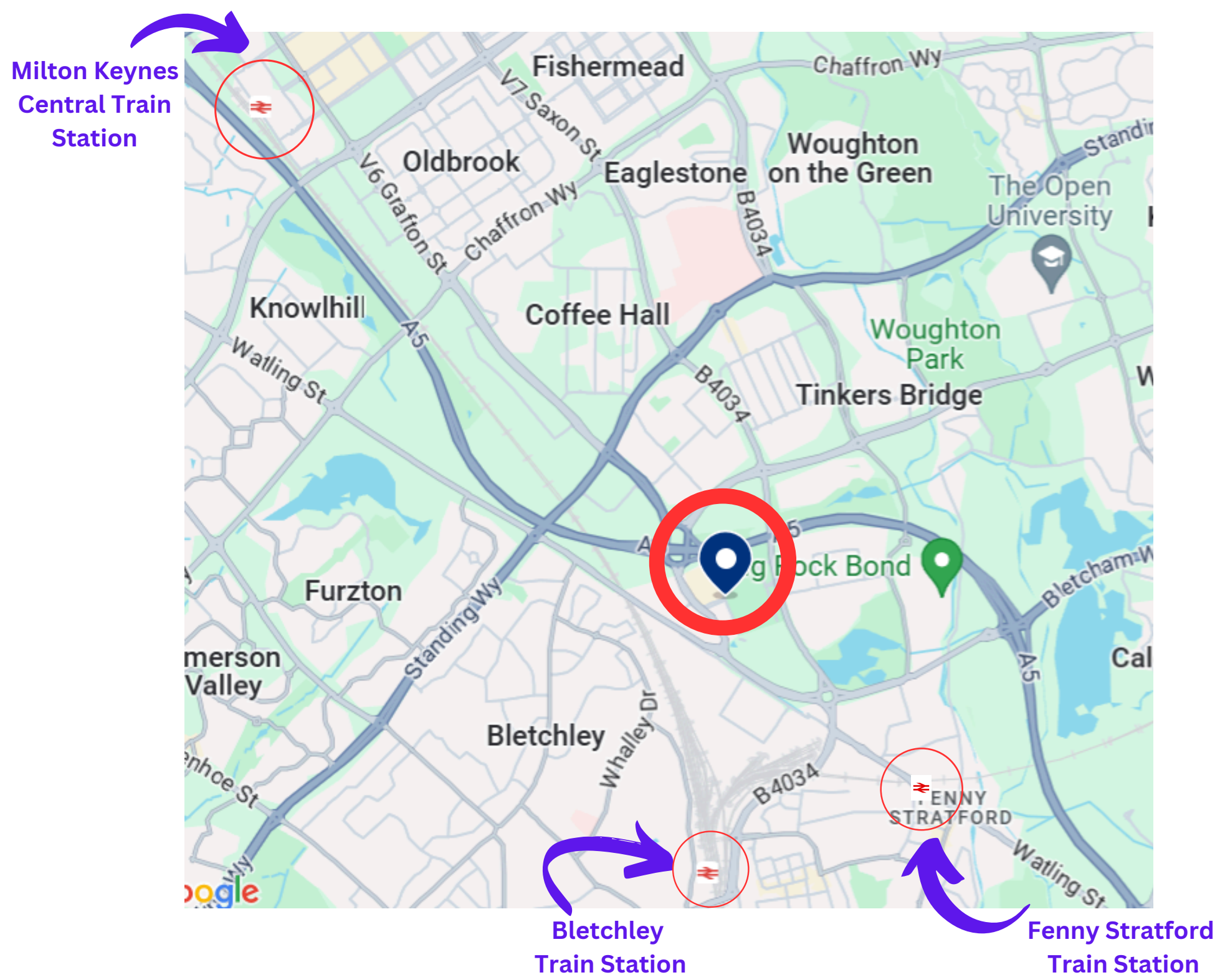


Journey Planner Home

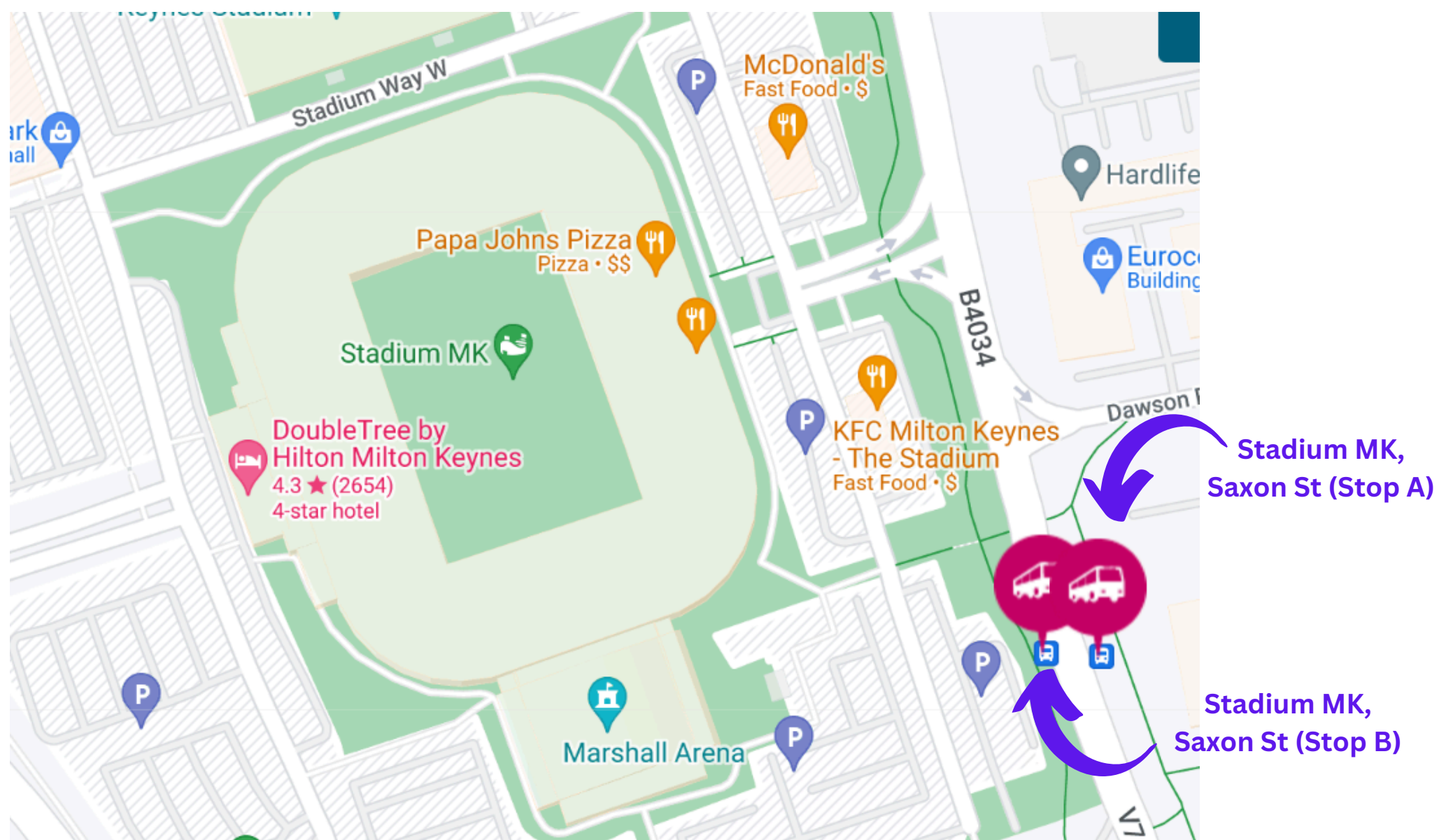
Creating a smarter, healthier, greener city - track your bus, join a bike ride, find a walking buddy; travel smarter, healthier, cheaper and greener...

 Milton Keynes /

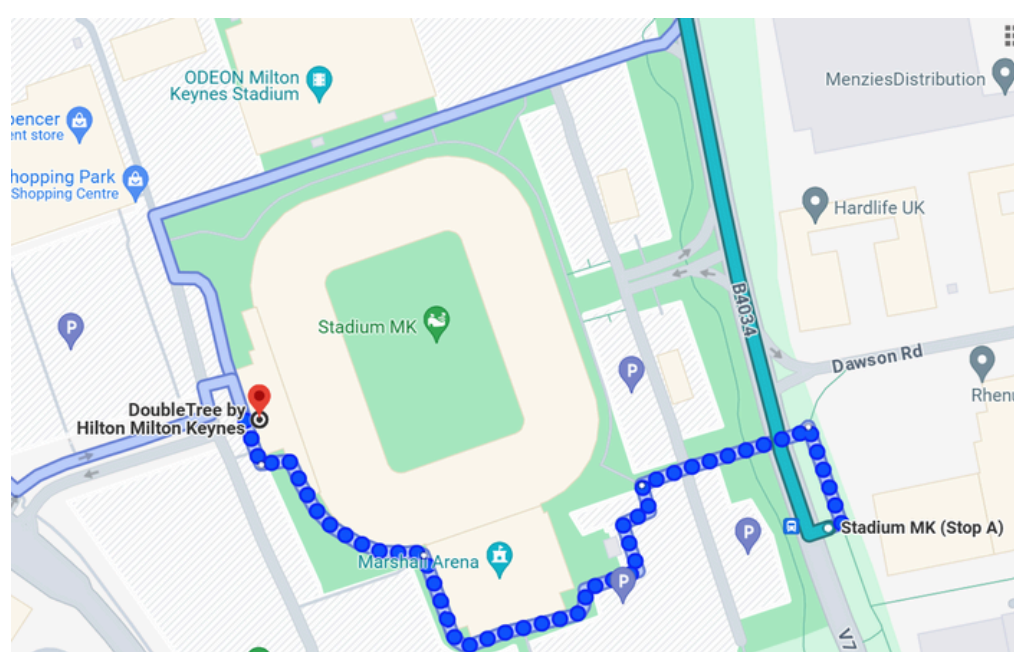
Nearest train stations to Conference



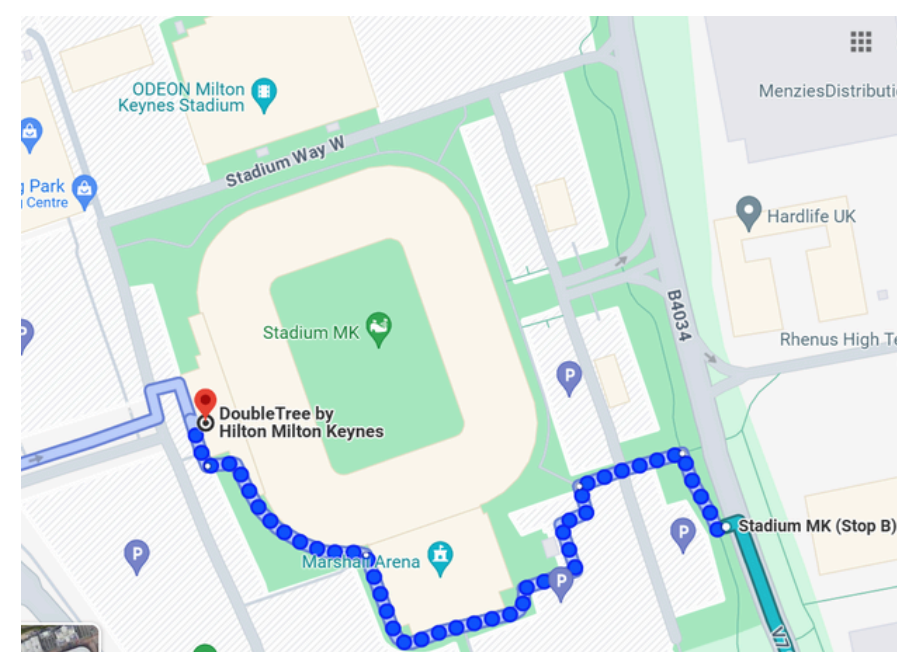
Bus Stops near the Conference



Walking routes from bus stops



From bus stop A
0.3 miles



From bus stop B
0.3 miles



Parking Tariffs Apply

These must be paid upon arrival

How to use RingGo Conference Delegate Parking



1. Download RingGo App

Go to the App Store or Google Play store and search for RingGo and download.



2. Create an Account

Register a few details, next time you visit Stadium MK, you can pay to park in seconds.



3. Enter Location Code

Enter the 5-digit code below

63464

If you are a conference delegate and have received a discount code, please enter this into the 'Search by code, town or postcode section' to obtain reduced rates.



4. Select Vehicle

Enter your vehicle registration (no spaces)



5. Select Time

Select how long you want to stay: 12 hours or 24 hours



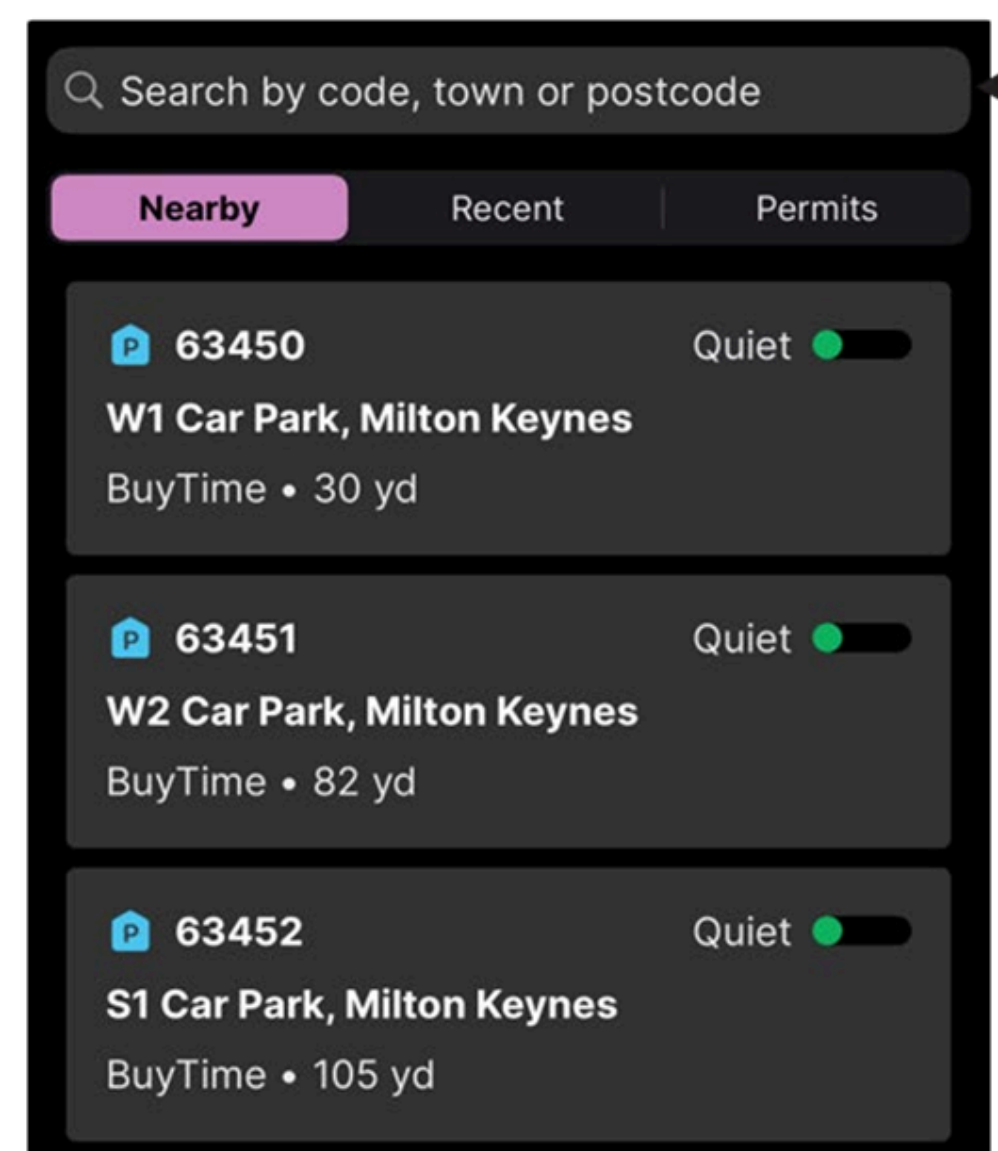
6. Confirm Details

Confirm your payment details and to pay for your parking session.



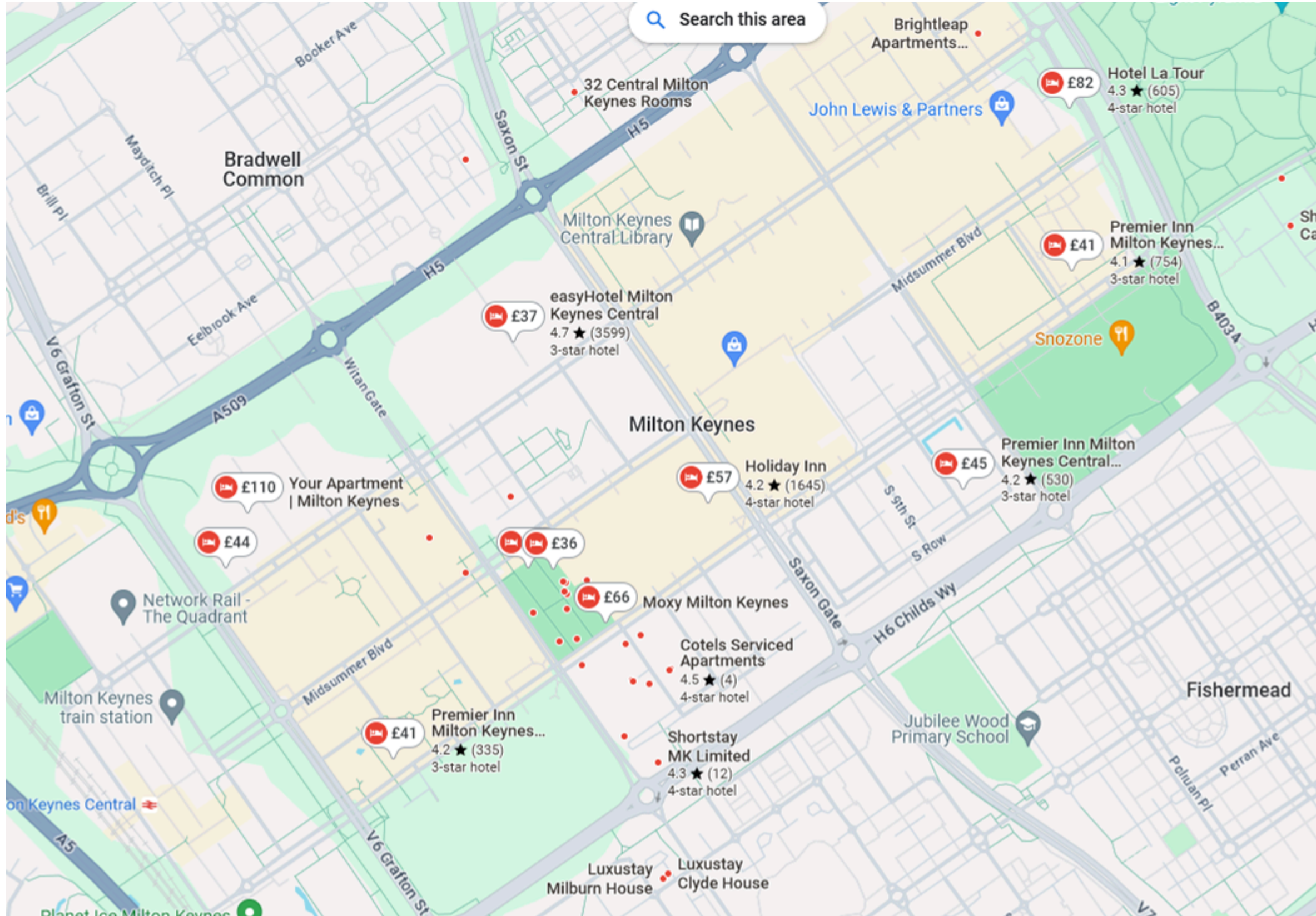
Terms & Conditions

Scan the QR Code to view our terms and conditions.



Hotels

The conference is being held at Stadium MK which has a hotel within ([Double Tree by Hilton](#)). You don't have to stay in the conference hotel as there are many places to stay in Milton Keynes which are either a short walk or bus journey away.



Places to eat

