



Northern Powerhouse Rail

Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) is a major strategic rail programme, designed to transform the northern economy and meet the needs of people and business. It will transform connectivity between the key economic centres of the North. The programme promises radical changes in service patterns, and target journey times. By delivering NPR more than 40% of businesses identified as having the North's prime capabilities would be within 90 minutes rail travel of four or more of the North's largest economic centres, compared with only 12% today.

Currently fewer than 10,000 people in the North can access four or more of the North's largest economic centres within an hour. This would rise to 1.3 million once NPR is delivered. NPR would transform the job market, giving businesses access to skilled workers in larger labour markets and offer individuals the opportunity for flexible career development and progression, all within the North.

NPR will support the transformation of the North's economy by providing much faster and more frequent rail connectivity between the North's main centres and with Manchester Airport.



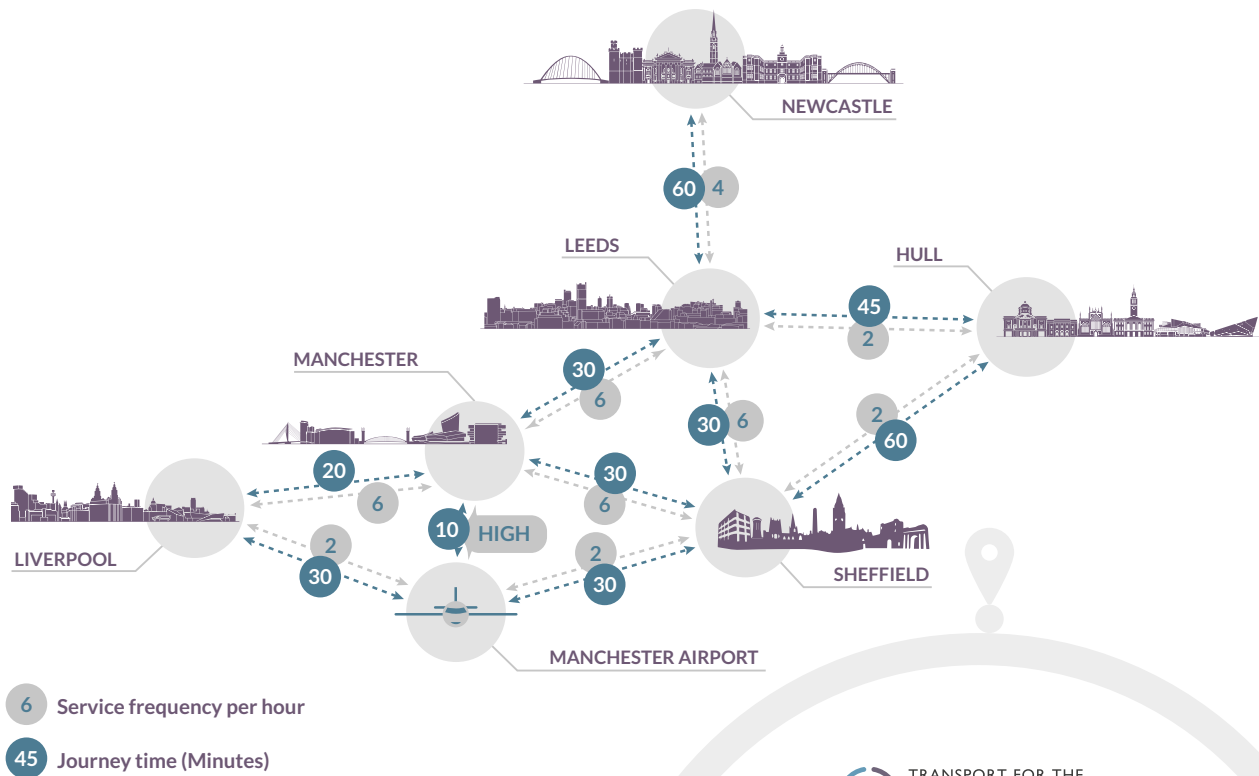
Next steps for Northern Powerhouse Rail

Transport for the North (TfN) and Department for Transport (DfT), working with delivery partners Network Rail and HS2 Ltd, have carried out substantial work to develop options in each NPR corridor, with priorities for further development agreed at the TfN Partnership Board in December 2016.

Detailed work on these concepts is now underway. A key initial milestone is to identify interfaces with HS2 to allow consideration for inclusion in the HS2 Phase 2b Hybrid Bill by summer 2017. Connections on to the Liverpool-Manchester, Leeds-Sheffield and east of Leeds corridors, and Manchester Piccadilly station, are being considered as part of this work.

TfN is considering how the NPR network could work as a part of the rest of the North's rail network. This is likely to involve a combination of new routes with upgrades of existing infrastructure. Work is also underway to develop options for NPR to serve Other Significant Economic Centres (OSECs) in the North. Options for NPR stations are under development including considering integrated masterplans that allow stations to be planned as integrated hubs in conjunction with wider spatial plans for the places they serve.

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