

OPEN LETTER FROM BUSINESS LEADERS IN SUPPORT OF GROWTH IN THE NORTH

Dear Prime Minister,

The industrialists and business leaders in the North have for many years made the case that we need to better connect the northern city regions to each other and to the world.

Northern Powerhouse Rail, from Liverpool through Manchester Airport and Manchester across to Bradford then Leeds as well as to Sheffield, Newcastle and Hull is the answer. Both investors and employers know it is essential to achieve our potential to increase the frequency and reliability of rail services between these places and reduce journey times as well as unlock more capacity for freight.

This investment would put 3.8 million more northerners within 90 minutes of four or more northern cities. **More people able to travel for work and leisure to more places.**

It would more than double the number of people able to access Manchester Airport within 90 minutes. **Whilst London needs new runways, we need the rail line to reach the ones we already have.**

Productivity in the North continues to lag behind the South – as the UK's overall productivity lags behind that of similar countries overseas. Northern Powerhouse Rail would help close these gaps by **dramatically raising our productivity**, adding £14.4bn more GVA annually by 2060.

We know your government understands the importance of delivering in full on the Chancellor's commitment to Northern Powerhouse Rail made at the spending review. We will work with you as you consider seriously the case for both investment in the infrastructure and the wider growth corridor it will enable.

Northern Powerhouse Rail can and will be **radically different** to HS2 – bottom-up and working with local government and business leaders, harnessing private investment where possible, driving costs down through innovative delivery models and technologies, and focused on regeneration, housing and growth outcomes first and foremost.

The UK used to be global leaders in delivering infrastructure to power economic transformation. We must get back to this position.

Mark Reynolds	Executive Chairman	Mace Group
Paula Walsh	Managing Director UKIMEA	Arup
Alan Brookes	Global CEO	Arcadis
Andrew Dawes	Regional Director, Humber	Associated British Ports
Richard Risdon	Executive board director and MDr, UK and Europe	Mott McDonald
		Bruntwood &
Chris Oglesby	CEO	Bruntwood SciTech
Chris Woodroofe	Managing Director	Manchester Airport
Adrian Brooks	Chairman	Production Park
Susan Scurlock	CEO and Founder	Primary Engineer
Ian Ward	Chairman	Broadway Bradford
David Richards	Managing Partner	Yorkshire AI Labs
Stephen Gilbert		Gilbert Consulting
Frank McKenna	CEO and Group Chairman	Downtown in Business
Andrew McFarlane	Head of Regions	Colliers
Stephen	Principal and Managing Director, Regions &	
Cowperthwaite	Liverpool	Avison Young
Peter Crowther	CEO	The Tatton Estate
Karl Bond	CEO	Forest Distillery
Carsten Kressel	Director	Kressel Regeneration Ltd
Jonny Noble	Chief Executive	Bradford BID
Rami Baitiéh	CEO	Morrisons
Will Dracup	CEO	Total Lab
		Health Innovation
Richard Stubbs	Chief Executive	Yorkshire and Humber
Nicky Chance		
Thompson	CEO	The Piece Hall
Louisa Harrison-		Sheffield Chamber of
Walker OBE	Chief Executive	Commerce and Industry
Prof Duncan Ivison	President & Vice Chancellor	University of Manchester
Prof Miranda Barker		East Lancashire
OBE DL	Chief Executive	Chamber of Commerce
		North East Chamber of
John McCabe	Chief Executive	Commerce
		Northern Powerhouse
Simon Bird	Board Member	Partnership
Prof Chris Day	Vice Chancellor	Newcastle University
Prof Nic Beech	Vice Chancellor	University of Salford
Prof Andy Long	Vice Chancellor & Chief Executive	Northumbria University
Prof Koen Lamberts	President & Vice Chancellor	University of Sheffield
Mark Horsley	CEO	Northern Gas Networks
		Northern Powerhouse
Henri Murison	Chief Executive	Partnership
Gerald Jennings	Owner	G R Jennings Properties Ltd
Andrew Cooper	CEO	Leeds BID

Andrew Milnes	Owner	Mortgage Advice Bureau
Amanda Beresford	Board Chair	West & North Yorkshire Chamber
Steve Secker	Founder	Secker Taylor Associates
David Hodgson	Development Director	Miller Developments
Nikki Davies	Principal and CEO	Leeds College of Building
Aqila Choudhry	President	Leeds Chamber of Commerce
Tom McWilliams	Head of UK Development & Head of Leeds Office	JLL
Rebecca Fitzgerald	Chamber president and head of data at YBS	Bradford Chamber
Simon Hinchliffe	Headteacher	Bradford Grammar School
Paul McGouran	Director - North	RLB
Warwick Andrews	Managing Director	Leeds Tykes
	President and Autohorn sales and operations	
Scott Jenkins	director	York Chamber and Autohorn
Scott Wilson	Director	Christeyns
Gurminder		
Sanghera	Director	AHR
Steve Lowe	Sales Director	LocalIQ
Bolu Fagborun	MD	Fagborun Limited
Daniel Starkey	Associate Director	AspinallVerdi
David Rollinson	Chairman	Spawforths
Sarah Ratcliffe	Partner	Gordons
Julian Pierce	Founder	Yasper Agency
Caroline Pullich	Group Head of Private Clients	TL Dallas
Ben Pilgrim	Founding Director	Royal Pilgrim
Natalie Wilson	Group Vice Principal Curriculum and Skills	Luminate Education Group
Tom Walker	Partner	Gillespies
Victoria Wainwright	Partner	Azets
Stephen McManus	Director	Chartback
Paul Birtles	Operations Director	Produmax
Ken Merry	Principal and Chief Executive	York College
Graham Sweeney	Managing Partner	Schoefield Sweeney
Trevor Higgins	Chairman	Bradford Breakthrough
Daniel Postill	Associate	Bowman Riley
Joselyn Rankin	Head of Corporate Affairs and Sustainability	Leeds Bradford Airport
Heidi Mottram	Chief Executive	Northumbrian Water Group