

NEWS RELEASE



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Railway Industry Association

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RAILWAY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW FUNDING FOR RAIL PROJECTS IN THE NORTH

Further to comments made by the Railway Industry Association (RIA) earlier today on the importance of Northern Powerhouse Rail to HS2, Chancellor Philip Hammond has committed a further £300m to rail infrastructure in the North of England.

Darren Caplan, Chief Executive of the RIA said: "I am delighted to see the Chancellor commit to £300 million for new rail projects across the North. This funding is very much needed in order to speed up journey times and provide better services for passengers and freight customers across the region, and also to improve countrywide connectivity.

"As we heard from the Rail Minister at RIA's Rail Interview event at the Conservative Party conference in Manchester, and as has now been confirmed by the Chancellor, HS2 – alongside Northern Powerhouse Rail – will have a transformational effect on the UK. It will bring jobs and economic growth, it will act as a spur to investment, and it will bring communities closer together. This is an exciting time for rail and we are pleased that the Government is investing further in the sector."

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. The Railway Industry Association is the long-established trade association for the UK railway supply industry. Its member companies include manufacturers, maintainers, contractors, consultants and suppliers of specialist services. For further information, see our website at www.riagb.org.uk or us on 020 7201 0777.