HSUK NATIONAL NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

These diagrams set out the vision of an enhanced national railway network, based around the High Speed UK core network of dedicated high speed lines.

NND1: EXISTING UK RAIL NETWORK

This identifies the incomplete connectivity offered by the existing intercity rail network. Main lines radiate from London (East Coast, Midland, West Coast, Great Western) with CrossCountry and TransPennine providing interregional connections. These interregional routes comprise multiple city pairs, greatly increasing their viability, whereas the London-centric system comprises single city pairs. Connectivity is assessed against the benchmark requirement of direct services operating at minimum hourly frequency. Many of these services between regional centres comprise short and often ageing multiple units offering cramped passenger accommodation, not of 'intercity' quality.

NND2: HS2 PROPOSALS SUPERIMPOSED ONTO EXISTING UK RAIL NETWORK

The HS2 proposals are illustrated in 'extended Y' format, extending either side of the Pennines beyond the currently projected terminating points of Leeds and Manchester to all primary regional centres. The resulting system is of limited connectivity, focussed upon London with few viable interregional links; it is also segregated from the existing intercity railway, with high speed stations disconnected from regional 'hubs', and intermediate centres left bypassed. This restricted connectivity will compromise economic (and environmental) performance, with most benefits accruing in London where connectivity is concentrated. It will also create a 2-tier system, compromising the basic integrity of the national rail network, and preventing efficient development of rail links within the Northern Powerhouse.

NND3/4/5: HIGH SPEED UK SUPERIMPOSED ONTO EXISTING UK RAIL NETWORK

High Speed UK's blend of new build and upgraded routes, and its radically different 'spine and spur' configuration gives comprehensive connectivity between all primary regional centres of the Midlands, the North and Scotland. It is a far more efficient and symmetric system than the HS2 'Y', covering all primary main line corridors with 54 city pairs linked (as against 12 for HS2), yet requiring fewer route kilometres to be constructed and fewer trains to be operated.

NND6: HIGH SPEED UK FULLY INTEGRATED WITH EXISTING UK RAIL NETWORK

Full integration between high speed and classic networks is essential to optimise connectivity of the national network, and hence achieve optimum economic and environmental benefits. This diagram illustrates the full spread of HSUK services, extending to outlying regions and secondary centres that will inevitably be bypassed by new high speed lines. This will not merely replicate but enhance the functionality and connectivity of the existing intercity network.

NND7: HIGH SPEED UK ACCESSING HEATHROW VIA COMPASS POINT NETWORK

There is a powerful political imperative for high speed rail links to Heathrow, and this has exerted a massive influence on the development of HS2. It has dictated both the expensive and controversial Chiltern route, and the 'Y' configuration which leaves HS2 unable to perform effectively as a national intercity rail system; yet it is clear that HS2 will do little to enhance Heathrow's links to the UK regions. A far superior strategy is to create a regional 'Compass Point' network focussed upon Heathrow (largely utilising existing infrastructure) and connecting with both the classic and high speed systems. This diagram illustrates the comprehensive regional connectivity to Heathrow that is achievable with High Speed UK, and complementary development of Heathrow's local rail network.

NND8/9: HIGH SPEED UK PROPOSED INTERCITY SERVICE PATTERN, CORE NETWORK & FREQUENCIES

These diagrams set out a proposed service pattern for High Speed UK's core routes, and show service frequency between 16 fully interconnected cities. This fully replicates and greatly enhances the functionality of the existing intercity network, and is backed up by a comprehensive 'demonstrator timetable'.

NND10: HIGH SPEED UK PROPOSED HEATHROW SERVICE PATTERN

This diagram illustrates how 5 train diagrams can cover all primary centres of the Midlands, North and Scotland, plus South Wales and the West Country, and effectively eliminate any requirement for domestic flights to Heathrow. This is only achievable with HSUK's basic routeing efficiency, with several cities placed on a single line of route.

NND11: HIGH SPEED UK PROPOSED EUROPEAN SERVICE PATTERN

In the 1990's, the inefficiencies of the existing radial main line network prevented the Regional Eurostars from providing viable services to the UK provinces. The same problems exist with HS2, offering no prospect of frequent direct European services to regional UK destinations. High Speed UK's more efficient configuration allows all UK regional centres to be efficiently served with just 3 train diagrams (including a 'Great Western' link).

NND12 & NND13: KEY DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING EXISTING NETWORK ENHANCEMENTS

The improvement of intercity rail services under the UK high speed rail initiative demands parallel enhancements to existing local networks. Complementary regional development strategies must be established to ensure efficient network function and distribution to local networks. These diagrams, and linked regional diagrams, highlight the key projects that must be undertaken to realise the vision of an enhanced national rail network.

NND14: PARALLEL DEVELOPMENT OF 'EUROGAUGE UK' RAILFREIGHT NETWORK

High Speed UK's routeing, closely aligned with and frequently connected to existing rail corridors, presents the opportunity to create a parallel national network of lines on which freight becomes the prime user. This system, following 'decriticalised' routes generally clear of major tunnels and stations, has the potential for 'gauge enhancement' ie creating the larger clearances necessary to permit the operation of larger 'Eurogauge' Continental wagons and 'piggyback' operation of articulated trailers on rail wagons. This harmonises with other HSUK proposals, for TransPennine lorry shuttle operations and coast-to-coast freight links via the restored Woodhead corridor.

NND15: HIGH SPEED UK - NORTH & OTHER WINNERS OF 2019 TAXPAYERS ALLIANCE COMPETITION The HSUK national network extends to all areas of the country, intersecting with all other 27 winners of the 2019 TaxPayers' Alliance 'Great British Transport Competition'.





























