

A high-angle, slightly blurred photograph of a busy train platform. A high-speed train, with a silver and purple livery, is stopped at the platform. The train's doors are open, and many passengers are walking along the platform. The platform is made of light-colored tiles. The train has a distinctive aerodynamic nose. The overall scene conveys a sense of movement and public transport.

Delivering for you

Network Rail helps bring the country together. We own, operate, maintain and invest in Britain's rail network. We are delivering improved levels of safety, reliability and efficiency. This benefits our customers, stakeholders, passengers, freight users and society at large.

Britain's railways have enjoyed a resurgence in the last five years and much has been achieved.

- **Almost 90% of trains arrive on time, compared to 78% five years ago**
- **The number of late or cancelled trains has been halved**
- **Over £1 billion has been saved from the cost of running the rail network**
- **Rail is now the safest form of transport, pushing air travel into second place**

Testament to this success is the increase in demand. More people are choosing to travel by train than at any time since 1946 – last year, there were 1.147bn passenger journeys. Our network is the fastest growing in Europe with 43% passenger and 60% freight growth since 1996.

The challenges and opportunities this presents for the future must be understood. The Strategic Business Plan for 2009 – 2014 deals with the challenges of success. It is the shared industry view of what needs to be delivered to allow the railway to grow and thrive.



A vision for the future: 2014 and beyond

A modern, thriving railway plays an important part in a prosperous UK economy.

The vision for the future is clear. To deliver a railway where passengers have a safe, reliable, comfortable and environmentally-friendly train service. A railway where passengers can travel when they want to, through stations which are modern, clean and secure.

At a price they and the country can afford.

There is now a rare opportunity to improve the travelling experience of millions of people who depend on the railway.

A commitment for delivery

The detailed plans for the future aim to meet the growing expectations of passengers and freight users by:

Continuing to improve the reliability of train services

- **By 2014, over 92% of trains will be running on time**

Ongoing investment in the railway infrastructure

- **A total of £30bn is needed for the next five years**

Tackling overcrowding and improving train services on busy routes

- **£10bn to enhance the network where it is most needed**

Focusing on affordability by setting challenging but realistic efficiency targets

- **Over the ten years to 2014, the cost of running the railway will have been nearly halved.**

This is an ambitious plan for change, but it is robust, affordable and deliverable.

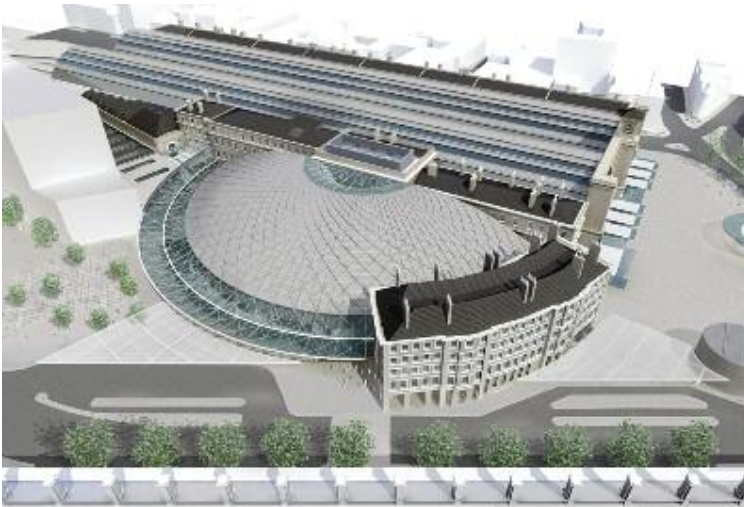
Growing the railway

Every year, the industry delivers over 5,000 investment projects to improve services for passengers. This is a great track record.

With more people choosing to use the railway, many schemes are planned all over Britain to improve and introduce new train services where they are most needed.

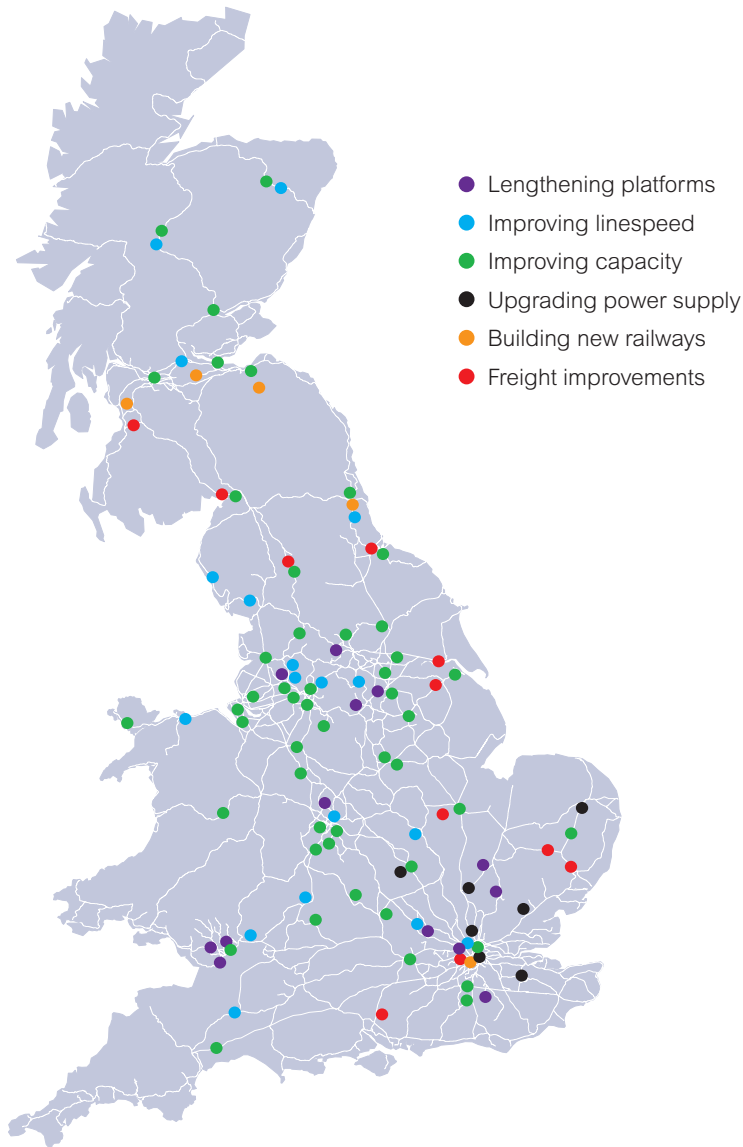
In a multi-billion pound blueprint for expansion, some of the biggest and most ambitious plans include:

- **Upgrading the Thameslink route, delivering improved journeys and stations for the millions of people who use it every year. Together with Crossrail, rail travel in the South East will be transformed**
- **Delivering a much-needed redevelopment at Birmingham New Street station to alleviate passenger congestion**
- **Investing in Reading station and surrounding railway infrastructure to allow more trains to travel through**
- **Building a new railway line and new stations between Airdrie and Bathgate in Scotland**
- **Upgrading the freight line between Southampton and the West Coast mainline to take more freight off the road and onto rail**
- **Improving essential Olympic transport infrastructure, from King's Cross to Stratford.**



Some of our plans

There are thousands of other projects to improve the experience of passengers across the length and breadth of Britain – removing bottlenecks, lengthening platforms and modernising stations. In addition, the plan assumes the industry will introduce 1,700 new carriages onto the network to increase capacity. All to deliver positive change.



Investing in stations

Passengers want modern, safe stations where they can make easy connections with buses, trams, taxis and other forms of transport.

Investing in stations also gives great economic benefits and drives community regeneration.

The plans include:

- **Transforming Britain's biggest stations, including King's Cross, Manchester Victoria, London Bridge, London Victoria, Euston and Edinburgh Waverley**
- **Investing £150m to deliver improvements across over a hundred medium sized stations across the country**
- **Building new, modern stations which are sustainable, quick to construct and will allow even more people to use the railway.**

Investing in a greener railway

Rail is already a green form of travel. Making rail travel more attractive and affordable is our greatest contribution to society's growing environmental challenge.

Other improvements can and will be made, including:

- **Investment in new lightweight trains which are more energy efficient**
- **Recovery, recycling or reuse of more than 80% of waste from depots, stations and offices**
- **Emissions from offices and stations to be reduced by 20%**
- **Building new stations which are high quality but with a small carbon footprint.**

Working together

Recent improvements for passengers and freight users have been delivered as a result of the entire industry working together in great partnership. This will continue.

This is an industry plan with a clear vision. It reflects governments' priorities as well as the needs of passengers and freight users. It also involves working more closely with other stakeholders, commercial organisations and funding partners to accelerate the future growth and development of the railways.

This vision can be a reality. It is an opportunity to transform the railway for the people of Britain.

**To read the full Strategic Business Plan
and individual Route Plans, please visit
our website:**

www.networkrail.co.uk

Network Rail
40 Melton Street
London NW1 2EE

Tel: 020 7557 8000

www.networkrail.co.uk

Printed on Revive 50:50 produced at a mill that
has been awarded the ISO14001 certificate for
environmental management.

032/November 2007