

Building a #better railway for Britain

Network Rail's five-year delivery plan, covering the period from 2014 to 2019 (known as control period five, or CP5), maps out a programme of projects designed to maintain and improve an ageing infrastructure and schemes to reduce the cost of running the rail network.

By 2019, the plan will deliver a railway that:

- Moves 225m more passengers per year and carries 355,000 more trains – the highest numbers ever seen on Britain's railways
- Provides 20% extra morning peak seats into central London and 32% into large regional cities in England and Wales
- Delivers a step-change in connectivity between regional centres e.g. capacity to run hundreds of additional trains a day linking key northern cities and a ten-minute reduction in journey time between Manchester and Leeds
- Carries 30% more freight than today
- Maintains record levels of performance, with expected punctuality of 92.5% by the end of CP5
- Is future-proofing critical infrastructure such as 30,000 bridges, embankments and tunnels against the impact of changing weather patterns, including flooding
- Has cut CO₂ emissions per passenger by 37% – the equivalent of one million lorries off of our congested roads – and has hundreds of miles more electrified railway
- Is the safest in Europe, reducing risk at level crossings by a further 25% in CP5 on top of the 25% reduction in CP4
- Continues to modernise antiquated signalling equipment as part of a plan to move away from over 800 signal boxes to 14 major operations centres, allowing us to run more trains closer together, safely and reliably
- Is more efficient, reducing the cost of running Britain's railways by a further 20% (15% in CP4 and 27% in CP3) and cutting annual public subsidy to around £2bn in 2019 – down from £4bn in 2013 and £6.5bn in 2006.

To do this, Network Rail and its industry partners will be:

England:

- Removing the biggest bottleneck on the Great Western Main Line by rebuilding the railway in and around Reading station
- Completing the redevelopment of Birmingham New Street station
- Delivering the Northern Hub project which creates 20,000 jobs and increases rail capacity across the north of England by up to 700 services per day
- Electrifying over 850 miles of railway including the Great Western and Midland main lines and introducing new, more reliable and quicker trains
- Supporting High Speed 2 and the Department for Transport as they start to build Britain's high speed railway network to relieve the huge capacity constraints on the West Coast Main Line and improve connectivity across the Midlands and north of England
- Connecting Oxford with Bedford and Milton Keynes as part of the East West Rail project, which will provide a new, electrified railway linking the Great Western, West Coast and Midland Main Lines.

Scotland:

- Reconnecting the border towns of Scotland with Edinburgh by reopening 30 miles of railway closed by Beeching in the 1960s with three existing stations and seven new one.
- Improving the route between Aberdeen and Inverness resulting in better commuter services and a new station at Kintore.
- The Edinburgh-Glasgow Improvement Programme will see the main line between Edinburgh and Glasgow electrified with train capacity significantly enhanced, journey times reduced and key stations at Glasgow Queen Street and Edinburgh Haymarket rebuilt.

Wales:

- South Wales electrification
- Major resignalling work bringing more reliable services in the north of the country between Flint and Llandudno

London:

- Increasing the number of seats for passengers in London by 20% during the busiest times of day
- Completing the Thameslink upgrade programme, including the biggest and most complicated station rebuilding and remodelling ever on our railway, at London Bridge
- Completing the surface elements of the Crossrail project
- Extending platforms at Waterloo so longer trains can run and bringing back into use the Waterloo International Terminal

Freight:

- £200m investment in the Strategic Freight Network, including phase 2 of the Felixstowe-Nuneaton capacity upgrade and improvements from the Port of Southampton to the West Coast Main Line.

For more information on Network Rail's plans, visit [betterrailway.co.uk](https://www.betterrailway.co.uk)

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