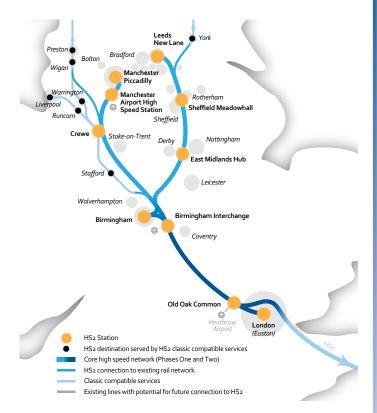


Building a connected Britain

High Speed Two (HS₂) will widen opportunities for millions of people by linking our big cities with London and with each other. It will re-write travel times between Britain's major cities, creating a high speed line that will integrate the economies of Birmingham, East Midlands, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds and many more, as well as linking them with London, the South East and Europe.



"Investment in high speed rail offers the optimum way of achieving the increased capacity, improving safety... containing and eventually reducing emissions."

North West Business Leadership Team, 'Grasping the Opportunity – High Speed Two to the North West'

Supporting regional jobs and housing

10,000 jobs

Phase Two construction (Leeds and Manchester)

1,400 jobs

Operation and maintenance (Leeds and Manchester)

Up to 43,600 jobs

Station-supported employment (Manchester Piccadilly, Manchester Airport)

Up to 4,100 homes

Station-supported housing (Manchester)

Regular, reliable services

Projected high speed services from Manchester Piccadilly in 2033:

1hr 8mins to London

Compared with 2hr 8mins today – three trains per hour

41mins to Birmingham

Compared with 1hr 28mins today – two trains per hour

Journey times

From Manchester Piccadilly

Destination	Current time (mins)	HS2 time (mins)
London	128	68
Heathrow*	188	83
Birmingham	88	41

From Manchester Airport

London	144	63
Heathrow*	204	78
Birmingham	104	32

* Journeys to Heathrow Airport based on Heathrow Express/Crossrail from HS2 station at Old Oak Common.

HOW HS2 WILL CHANGE

HS2 trains will add to Manchester's excellent existing connectivity

New high speed trains – running at speeds of up to 225mph – will serve Manchester as soon as the second stage of the project opens in 2032/33, redefining relationships between the major cities of the North West and the rest of the country.

This improved connectivity will unlock the enormous potential and exciting opportunities that Manchester has to offer – making it an even more attractive place to locate and do business, with people able to live here and work in Birmingham or London. New stations in Manchester Piccadilly and near Manchester Airport* provide opportunities for development. An airport station would be accessible to both airport passengers and the wider Cheshire area by public transport and by car.

There will also be the potential for direct trains from Manchester to Paris, Brussels and beyond, thanks to a connection from the high speed lines to the Channel Tunnel via Britain's first high speed line, High Speed One. We are working with Manchester to make the most of the opportunities that HS2 presents so that it generates more opportunities for people and businesses in the North West.

*Subject to agreement on appropriate funding.

