

4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Submitted via email to: [cfe@gbrrtt.co.uk](mailto:cfe@gbrrtt.co.uk)  
and also: [gbrrtt@mail1.citizenspace.com](mailto:gbrrtt@mail1.citizenspace.com)

To whom it may concern,

### **Great British Railways, Whole Industry Strategic Plan, Call for Evidence**

We thank you for the invitation to respond to the [Great British Railways, Whole Industry Strategic Plan](#), Call for Evidence. Our representations are submitted on behalf of Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce one of the largest accredited Chambers in the UK and representing over 4,000 companies in membership, with an economy estimated in size to be more than £83,848m (2015), it is home to over 115,000 businesses.

We are proud of the fact that our Chamber geography includes the town of Swindon, which Locomotive Superintendent, Daniel Gooch described as the ideal place for GWR's central repair works, and since 1841 when GWR Directors authorised the establishment of the railway works, had a long and illustrious association with trains and the railways.

Our response has been submitted via the online questionnaire (ID: ANON-Q6P5-51A8-B) and has been preparing in consultation with our membership through the [Business Manifesto 2022](#) and via direct engagement with selected members, including those of our [Western Rail to London Heathrow](#) sub-group.

As we submit our specific comments online we also draw your attention to the TVCC's previous and related [consultation responses and open letters](#) associated with transport and railways. These should be considered as part of our overall comments please and include:

- [Hendy Review: Union Connectivity](#) (12/2020)
- [Western Rail Link to Heathrow - Letter to Rail Minister](#) (08/2021)
- [England's Economic Heartland – Draft Transport Strategy](#) (10/2020)

We look forward to an opportunity of discussing these representations with you and your professional colleagues in more detail in due course.

On behalf of the Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce and our membership we thank you for this opportunity.

Yours sincerely,



**Paul Britton**  
**Chief Executive**