

Western Rail Link to Heathrow



Development of the case



Scheme arose from feedback from the Thames Valley business community and rapidly gathered support across multiple regions

addressing a deficiency in access when compared to many international hubs, became a top priority



Broader Benefits to a far greater footprint



Environmental



Social



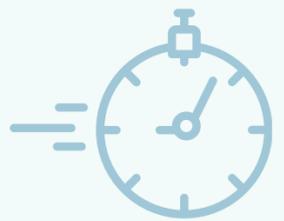
Economy of UK plc

Heathrow spur 'one of most important events for Wales in 50 years' Western Mail headline 13 July 2012



The case today

A fully developed and costed project



capable of rapid delivery subject only to planning and final funding approval

Value for money and with well-evidenced Return on Investment to HMG and business



No known obstacles to delivery

Broad stakeholder support across the benefitting regions:

Local government



MPs



Welsh Parliament



Universities

Business and business umbrella bodies



Tourism bodies



72%

Consultees in support

20 %

of the UK population will be connected to within one interchange of the UK's only hub airport

in connectivity to

14

Million people

**Transformational –
substantive improvement**

reducing travel
time to
catchment:

30 mins



Increase the attractiveness of the benefitting area to existing businesses and to potential investors and increase GVA

A Joined Up Project – serving and supporting South Wales, Southwest, South Central and Midlands



60

mins

Bring Oxford and Swindon within the magic “golden hour” for Foreign Direct Investors

A growth project

stimulating business investment, retention and regeneration throughout the catchment of multiple regions



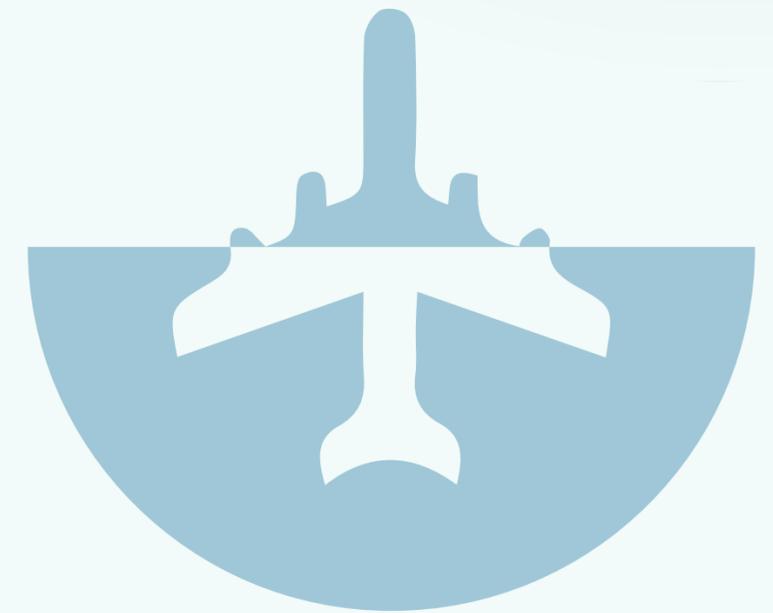
A catalyst

for the recovery of business confidence, inward investment, international trade and inbound tourism across the benefitting areas

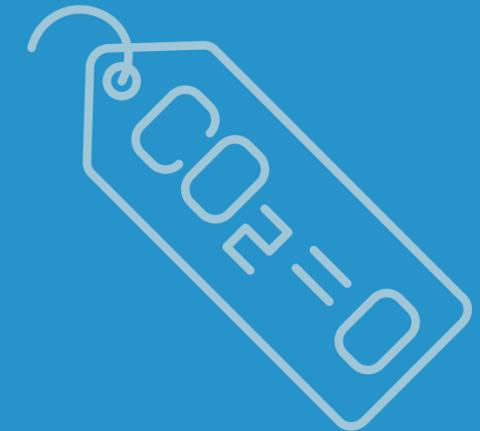


A vital stimulus

to the further recovery of the UK aviation industry



A carbon reduction project
delivering UK climate change targets
and mitigating the impact of Heathrow



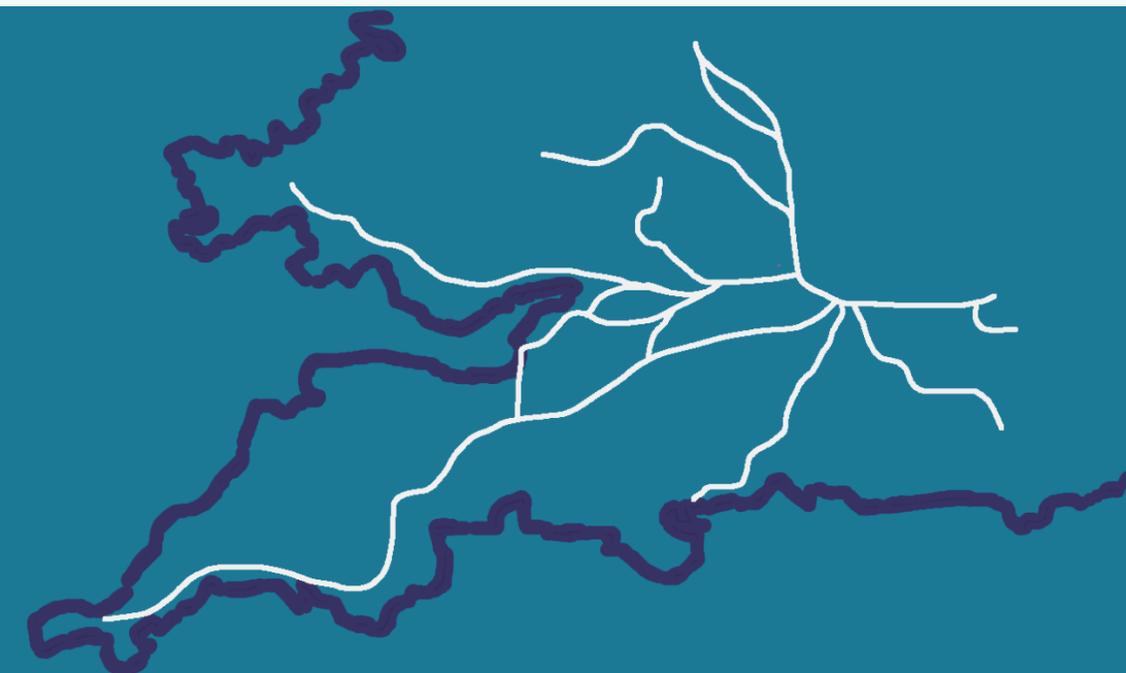
Reducing pollution and
congestion on major roads and
motorways

Delivering a modal shift from
road to rail



**Addressing the Government's
objective of Union Connectivity**

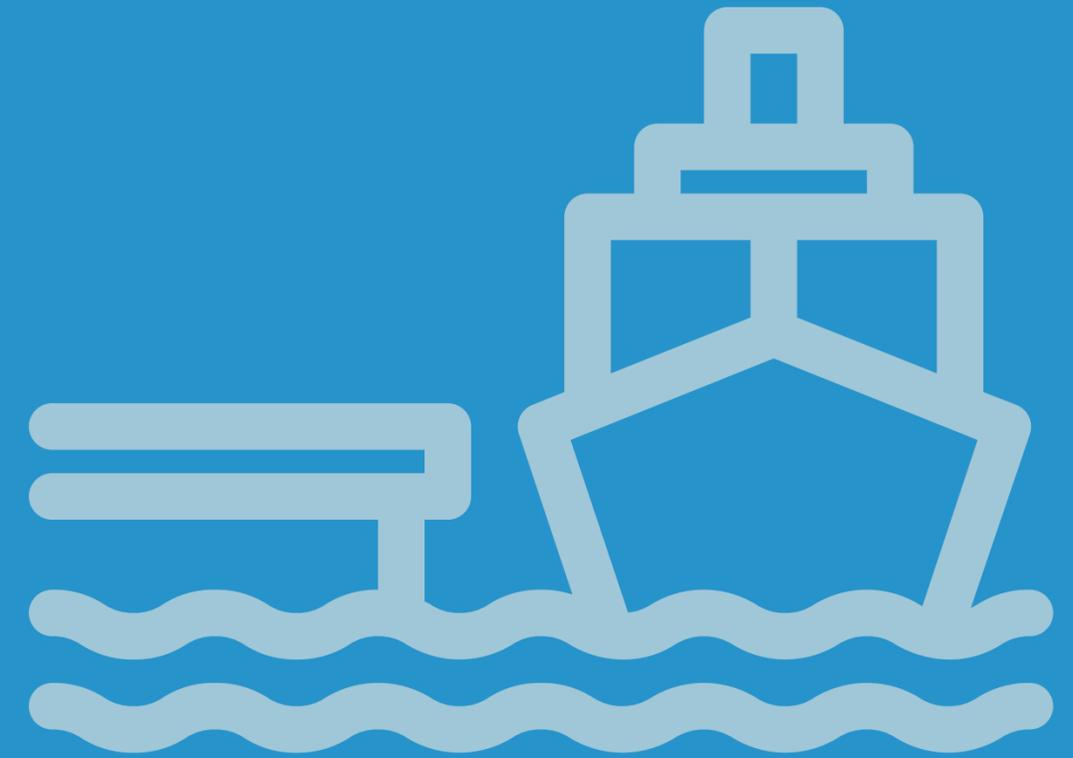
Connecting South Wales, Southwest,
South Central and Midlands



**Increases the attractiveness of
tourism areas to overseas
visitors, and of universities to
international research partners**



**Improves freight access
to Heathrow
(the UK's biggest port by value)**



Offers additional resilience

to the rail network and
reduces congestion at
Paddington

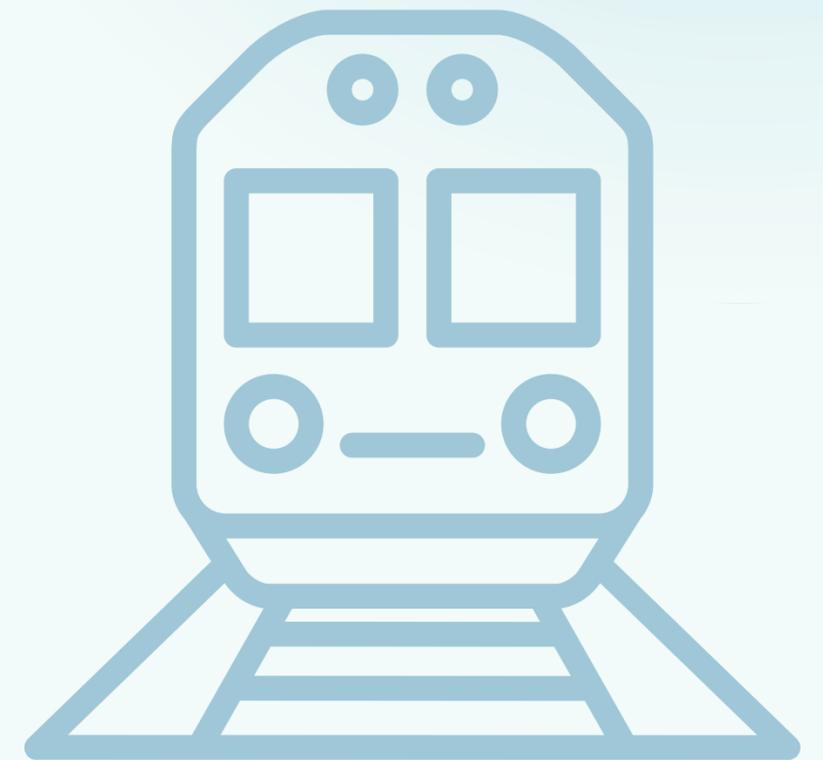


Increases passenger choice

and offers frequency,
reliability and
convenience



Makes greater use of
investment in



Reading station



**A standalone scheme, based
on a two-runway airport with
a case independent of
Heathrow's expansion**

Original business case



Network Rail estimate

Reduced CO2 emissions equivalent to



fewer road miles per year

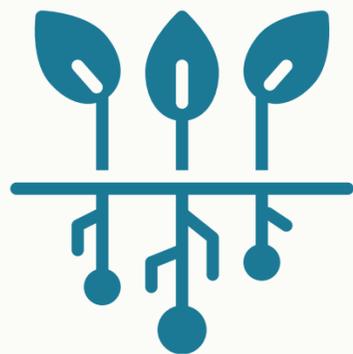
Summary

A fully developed and costed project, capable of rapid delivery of:

Economic
benefits to
UK plc



Growth



Improved
access for



million
people

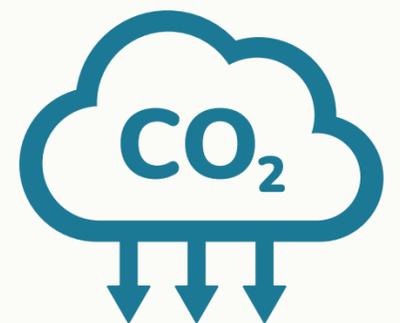
Joined Up
project



Union
connectivity



Carbon
reduction



Broad support and no known obstacles to delivery

