

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



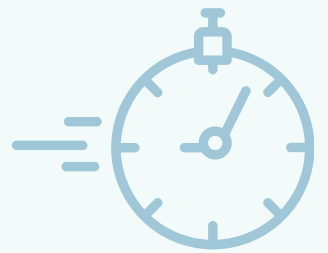
Economy of
UK plc

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



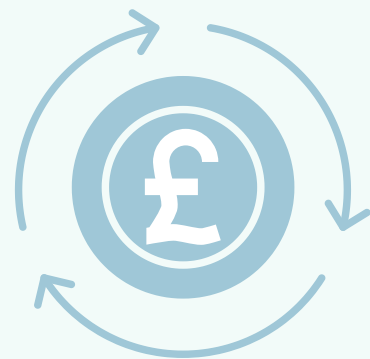
The case today

**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



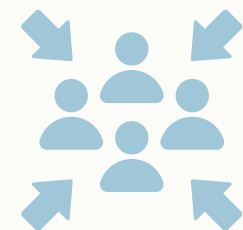
No known
obstacles to
delivery

**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



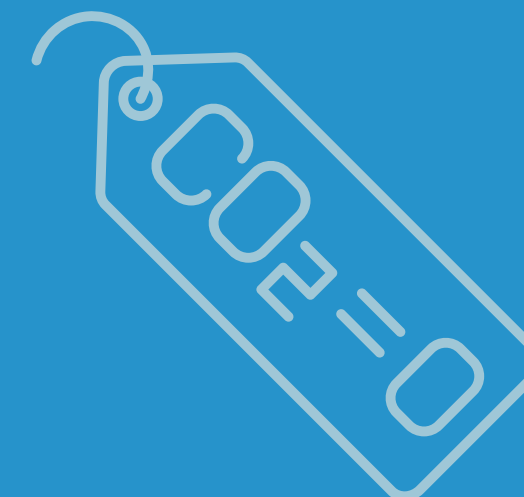
A vital stimulus

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

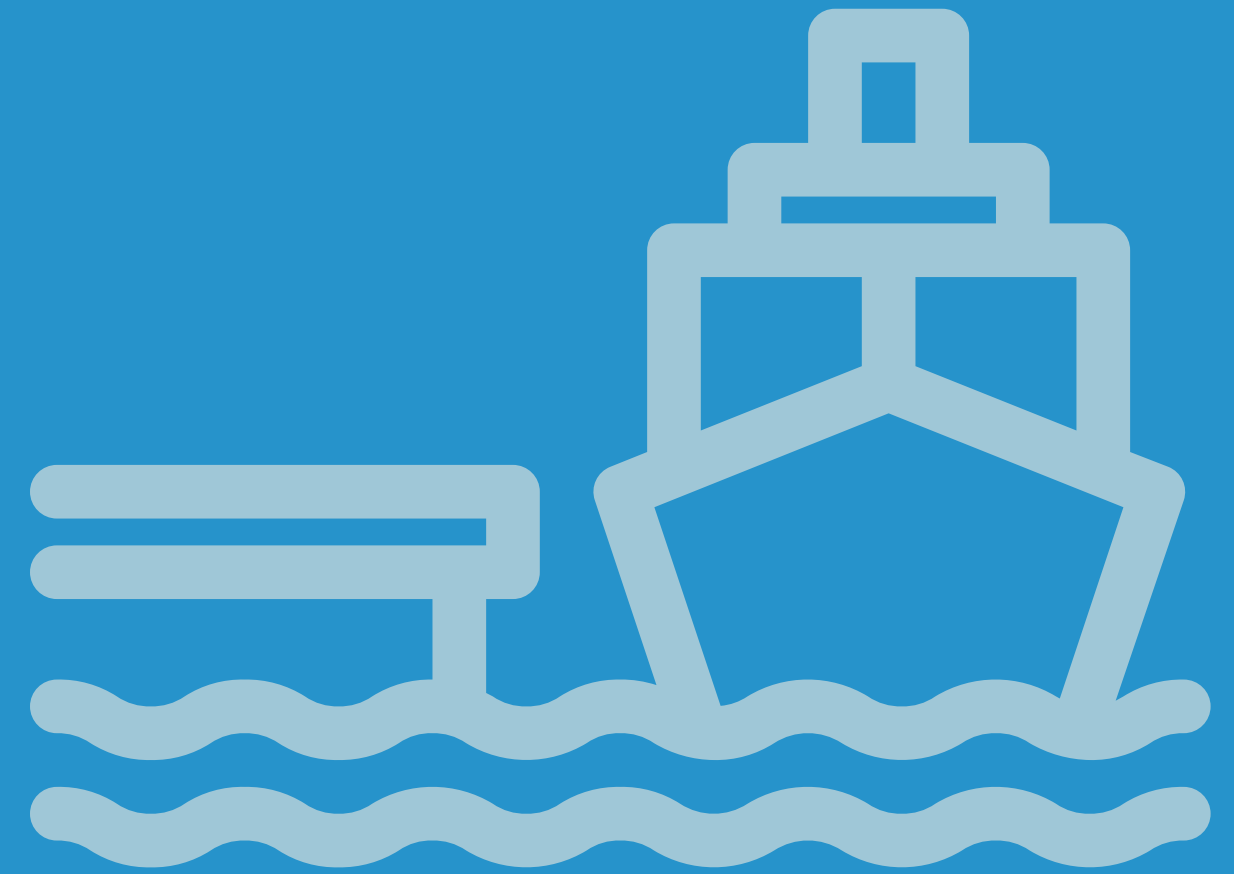
Connecting South Wales, Southwest,
South Central and Midlands



**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

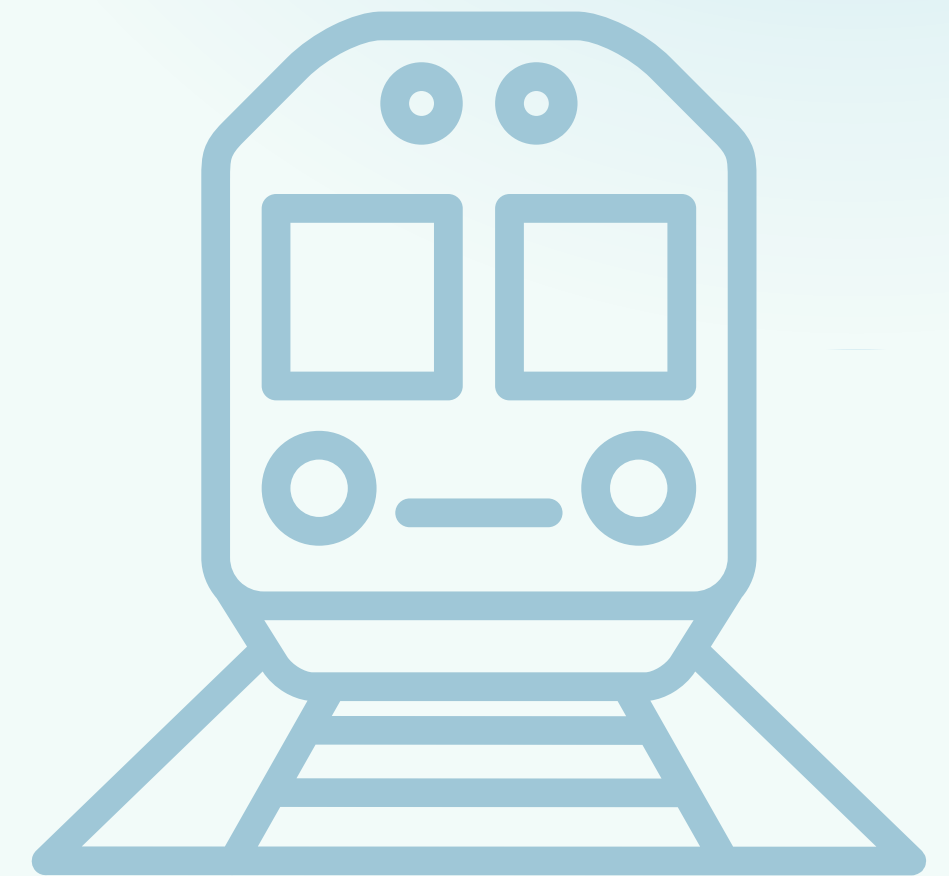


Increases passenger choice

and offers frequency,
reliability and
convenience



Makes greater use of
investment in



Reading station



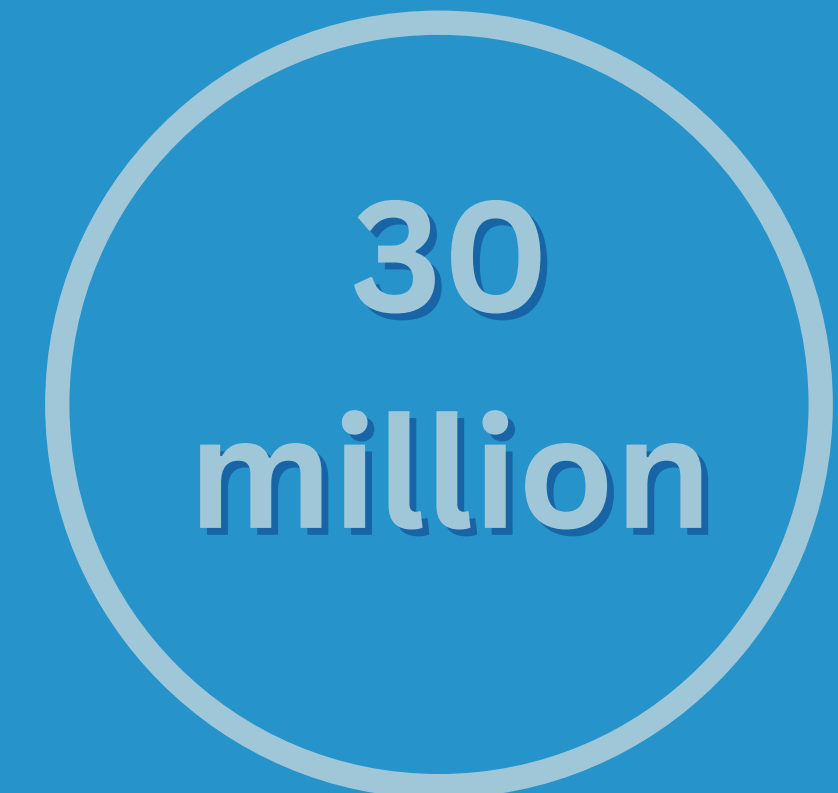
**A standalone scheme, based
on a two-runway airport with
a case independent of
Heathrow's expansion**

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

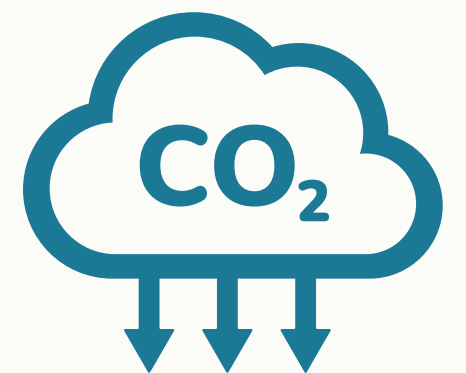
Joined Up
project



Union
connectivity



Carbon
reduction



Broad support and no known obstacles to delivery

