

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **RIA RESPONDS TO TRANSPORT SECRETARY'S CALL FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND TO "TAKE CONTROL" OF TRANSPORT**

Responding to Transport Secretary Chris Grayling's call for the North of England to "take control" of their transport networks, Darren Caplan, Chief Executive of the Railway Industry Association (RIA) said:

"Good transport connections are crucial to the economic success of all parts of the UK, including the North of England, and we should welcome greater involvement from the region's industry leaders and politicians in the development of regional transport policy. The Transport Secretary's call for greater regional influence on impactful decision-making is a positive step.

"However, if the Government wants to show its commitment to transport in the North it should fully back Northern Powerhouse Rail, also known as High Speed 3. This a major transport infrastructure scheme that will not only benefit the North, but the whole country and will help to improve connectivity, create jobs, boost productivity and provide economic growth, vital to ensuring the UK has the transport infrastructure it needs to deliver on the Government's Industrial Strategy and to enable the UK to be Brexit-ready in the years ahead."

### **Ends**

### **Notes to Editors:**

1. The Railway Industry Association is the long-established trade association for the UK railway supply industry. Its member companies include manufacturers, maintainers, contractors, consultants and suppliers of specialist services. For further information, see our website at [www.riagb.org.uk](http://www.riagb.org.uk) or us on 020 7201 0777.

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