

Members of Parliament pledge to support investment in rail for Liverpool and Manchester corridor

20 February 2019 – More than twenty cross-party members of Parliament from across the Liverpool and Manchester city regions have signed a pledge to support rail investment in the North West.

MPs from the Liverpool and Manchester city regions pledged to support rail investment, more skilled jobs in the railway industry, work for local supply chains, and investment in skills, people and technology. What has united all these politicians of varying political inclinations is an interest in the vital role played by the rail industry in the north west.

The pledge, which was coordinated by Alstom, whose world class centre for train modernisation is in Widnes, has been supported by a group of local business and union groups. These include: Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Hayley Group, Liverpool City Region LEP, Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Northern Rail Industry Leaders, Riverside College, the TUC, Wabtec, and the Institute of Railway Research at Huddersfield University.

Mike Hulme, Managing Director for Trains and Modernisation at Alstom said:

“The idea behind the pledge was to build a coalition of support in Parliament for rail investment in the region. There is such a great potential for the rail industry to be a force in the Liverpool and Manchester city regions, and encouraging local MPs to pledge to support that potential will open the door for investment and jobs.”

The region has a huge amount of untapped potential in the rail industry, being the site of a key rail cluster. With the right investment, the Liverpool and Manchester corridor can be a powerhouse for jobs and innovation in rail, with groups like Widnes-based Alstom working closely with SMEs in the supply chain, unions like the TUC, and education institutions like nearby Riverside College.

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[Notes for Editors](#)

The Liverpool & Manchester Rail Pledge

The wording for the pledge is:

I pledge to support:

- 1. Rail investment in the Liverpool and Manchester Corridor rail cluster*
- 2. Creating more skilled jobs in the railway industry in the region*
- 3. Securing work for the local supply chain*
- 4. Investment in skills, people and technology*

Photograph :

Top row: Kate Green MP, Maria Eagle MP, Mike Amesbury MP, Luciana Berger MP, Lucy Powell MP and James Frith MP, Sir David Crausby MP, George Howarth MP
Second row: Andrew Gwynne MP, Afzal Khan MP, Conor McGinn MP, Dan Carden MP
Third row: Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP, Mike Kane MP
Bottom row: Stephen Twigg MP, Bill Esterson MP, Frank Field MP, Faisal Rashid MP, Dame Louise Ellman MP, Tony Lloyd MP, Chris Green MP.

Pledge Partners

The pledge has been supported by a wide group of local businesses and union groups. These are:

- Alstom
- Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
- Hayley Group
- Liverpool City Region LEP
- Liverpool Chamber of Commerce
- Northern Rail Industry Leaders
- Riverside College
- TUC
- Wabtec
- Institute of Railway Research at Huddersfield University

Alstom UK

Alstom has been part of the rail industry in the UK for over a century. Alstom provides the widest range of solutions in the market, from high-speed trains, metros and tramways to maintenance, infrastructure and signalling. In 2017 Alstom opened the UK's largest and most sophisticated new centre for train modernisation, in Widnes.

About Alstom

As a promoter of sustainable mobility, Alstom develops and markets systems, equipment and services for the transport sector. Alstom offers a complete range of solutions (from high-speed trains to metros, tramways and e-buses), passenger solutions, customised services (maintenance, modernisation), infrastructure, signalling and digital mobility solutions. Alstom is a world leader in integrated transport systems. The company recorded sales of €7.3 billion and booked €7.2 billion of orders in the 2017/18 fiscal year. Headquartered in France, Alstom is present in over 60 countries and employs 34,500 people.

www.alstom.com

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