

# Midlands Connect

Maria Machancoses  
Programme Director

*“We are powering the Midlands Engine for Growth by connecting people and places, manufacturers and markets for a more prosperous UK.”*



# The Midlands – Engine for Growth



17% of all UK exports sold to 178 countries  
(over 90% of countries in the world)



An economic output of £220 billion  
in 2015 (16% of the total UK GVA)



Attracted 880 Foreign Direct Investment projects  
creating over 48,000 new jobs and safeguarding a  
further 23,000 between 2011 and 2015



Major employers include; Walgreens Boots Alliance,  
Alstom, Bombardier, HSBC, JCB, PepsiCo, Rolls-Royce,  
Toyota and Jaguar Land Rover...

# The Partnership

- Aim: To create 300,000 jobs and £34 billion to the UK economy by 2020
- Brings together 28 Local Authorities, 10 LEPs, 27 universities...
- Represents 17.9% of the UK population (11.5m)
- 15 cities (2 core cities), 25 science parks and 3 international airports.



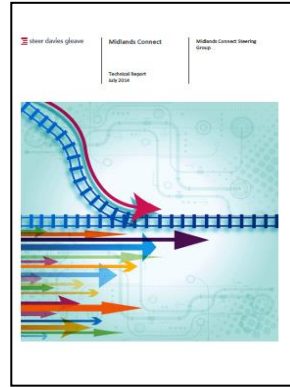
# Midlands Connect:

## 3 Key Drivers:

1. One Voice: Unprecedented will to work across larger geographies (28 LTAs & 10 LEPs).
2. No more long “wish lists” - Need to:
  - Develop an evidence-based rationale for transport investment in the region (post 2020)
  - Clearly define the economic ‘prize’ on offer
3. Ensure the Midlands is “HS2 Ready”.



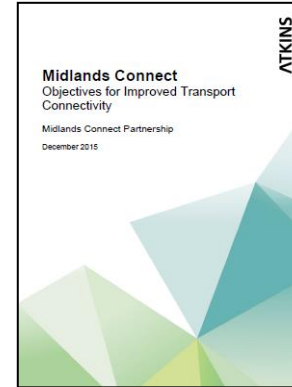
# Midlands Connect – What we have done so far



Technical Report  
July 2014



Business Research  
December 2015



Objectives for Improved  
Transport Connectivity  
December 2015



Delivering a Transport  
Strategy for the Midlands



Economic Study  
May 2015

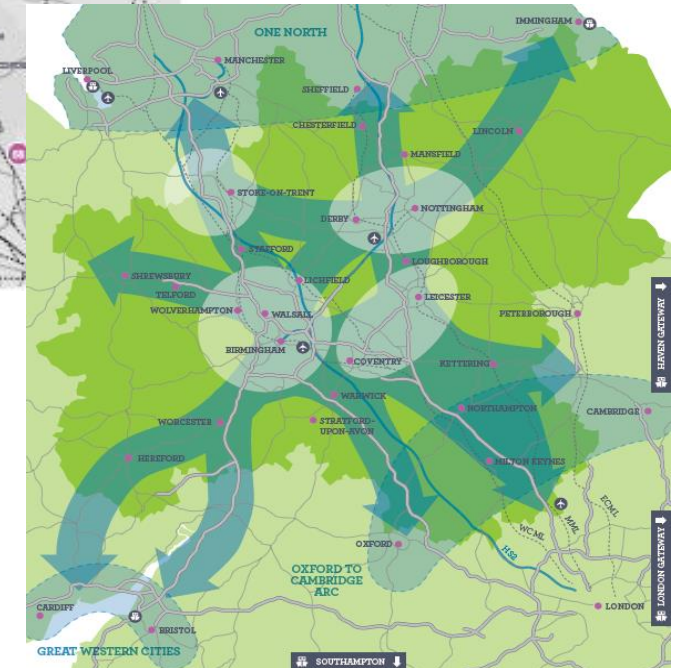
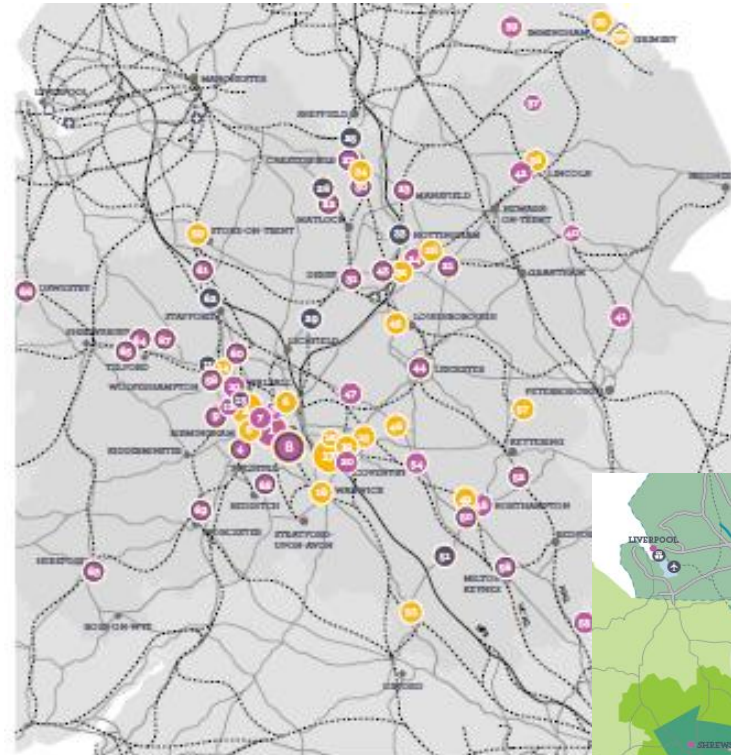


Picking Up the Pace  
July 2016



# KEY Principles...

1. **Growth led Capacity** – Creating headroom on our most crowded networks for growth
2. **Clear patterns of clustering**, with differing enabling roles of our road and rail networks
3. **Six intensive growth corridors**,
4. **Four primary economic hubs** (with high levels of capacity requirements)
5. **Midlands Becoming HS2 Ready** –
  - i. Ensuring wider connectivity to HS2 stations serving the Midlands
  - ii. Maximise benefits to the wider Network: By freeing up & enabling new connections



# Technical Packages



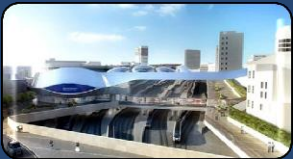
## **WP1: Strategy – powering our programme**

Evidence, Priorities, Coordination, Overall Strategy



## **WP2: HS2 Readiness – capturing the benefits**

Connectivity to HS2 stations, unlocking released capacity, integration with HS2 Growth Strategies.



## **WP3&4: MC Hubs & Corridors – connecting the heart of the Midlands and beyond**

Four Hubs: identify and assess options for rail, road, integration, develop strategies for each Hub.



## **WP5a: MC Freight – incorporating freight needs**

Providing a network required for the logistic and distribution industry



# Technical Packages



## **WP5b: International Gateways – globally connected**

Looking at access to ports and airports across the region and beyond, and their strategic role.



## **WP6: Smart Connectivity – more intelligent travel**

Improved information on travel choices, new forms of payment for travel, mobile data to transform productivity

Let's talk

## **WP7: Communications – sharing and engaging**

Open communications, no surprises, regular updates, launch strategy in March 2017



## **WP8: STB Development – looking to the future**

At this stage, defining the potential benefits to both members and users

# Picking up the Pace

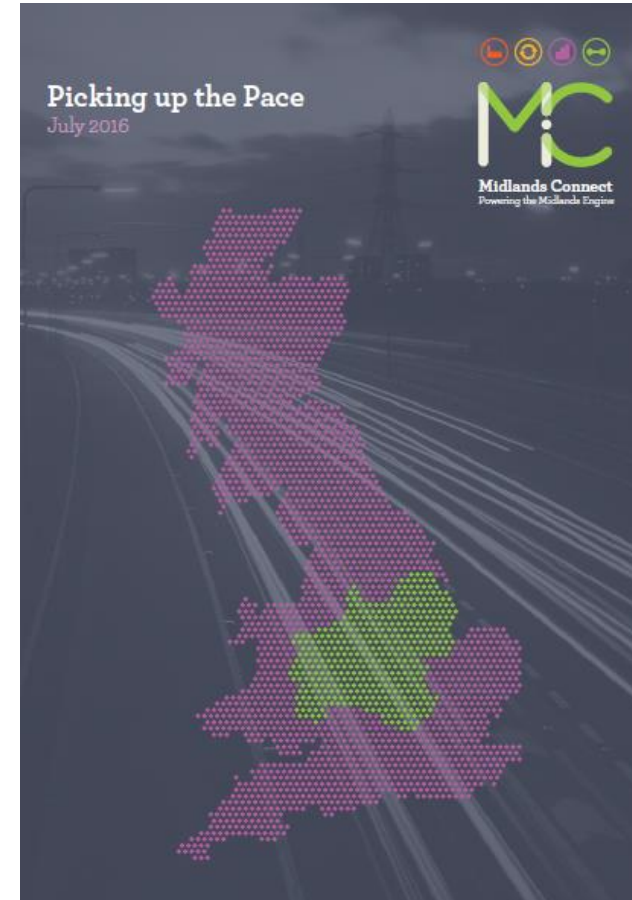
**Our purpose is clear. To turn economic potential into real growth.**

Through the report we sought continued support from government in “picking up the pace” in the following key areas:

**Getting Growth Planned - Picking up the Pace with a new approach in the Midlands**

**Getting Growth Started - Picking up the Pace on developing key infrastructure**

**Getting Growth Delivered - Picking up the Pace on becoming a Sub-National Transport Body**



# Strategy Development

## Recent Activity:

- Identified 350+ scheme or intervention options
- Sifted and refined those to around 30 priority 'packages':
  - Linking Hubs and Corridors
  - Serving and supporting HS2 Stations
  - Freight
- Shaping the evidence linking needs with interventions
- Developing our thoughts on becoming a Sub-National Transport Strategy



July 2016  
Picking  
up the Pace Report



Autumn 2016  
Emerging Strategy



March 2017  
Final Strategy

# Emerging Strategy – Autumn 16

Conveying the role and purpose of our corridors through four themes:

- The Midlands on a Global Stage
- The Midlands as a National Transport Hub
- Freight Matters
- Driving Regional Growth – Improving East-West Connectivity

## Midlands Economic Hubs

- A** Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire
- B** Nottingham and Derby
- C** Leicester and Coventry
- D** Birmingham, Solihull and Black Country





## Benefits

Up to 10 extra trains every hour  
More freight trains  
New journey opportunities between East and West Midlands  
Unlocking new jobs across the Midlands  
Maximising benefits of HS2

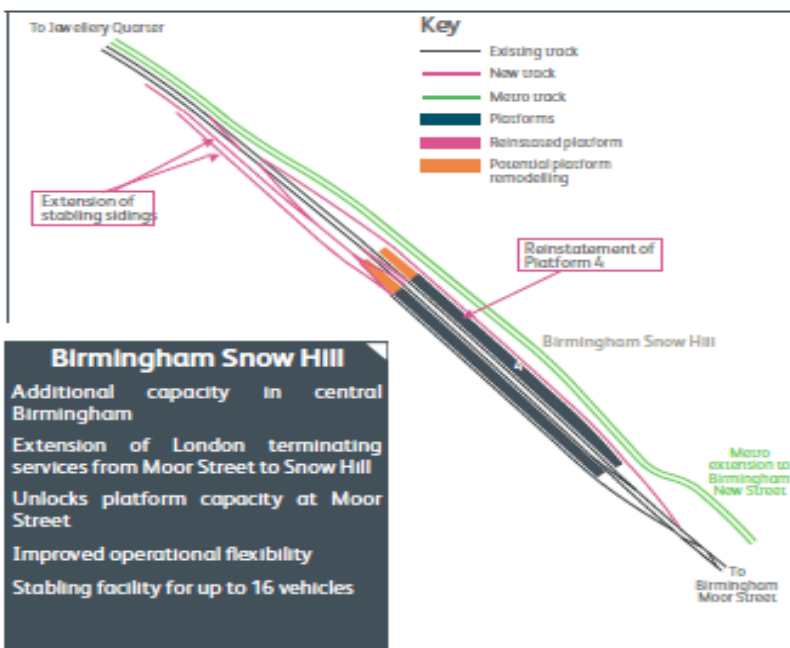
## Digital Railway

### Benefits

Better passenger information  
Informed journey choices  
Smarter ticketing

## Water Orton

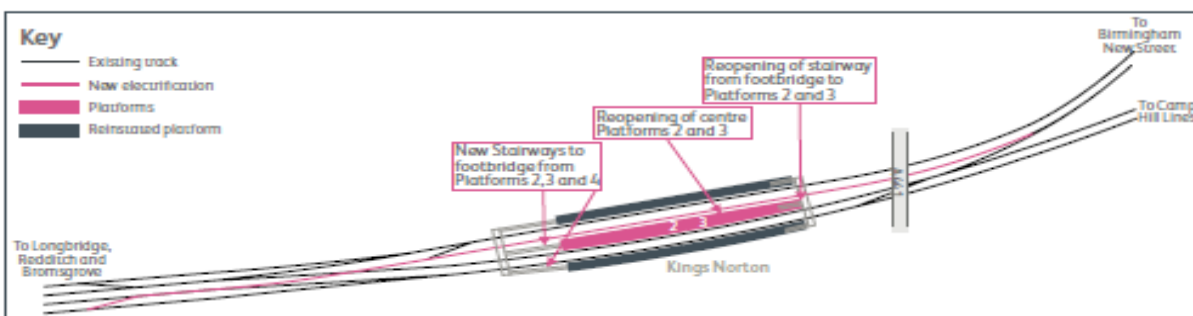
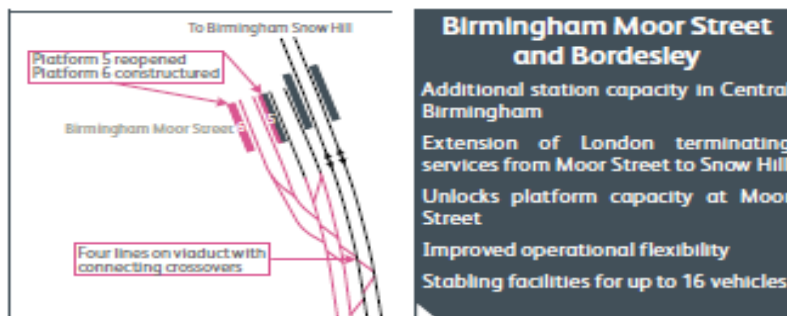
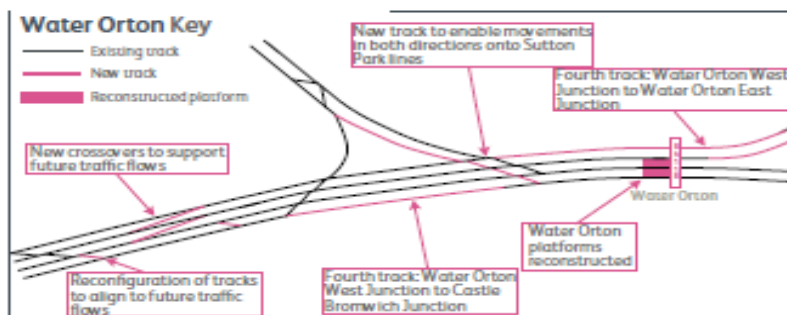
Enables additional passenger services between East and West Midlands  
Capacity for freight growth  
Improved operational flexibility through separated flows  
Improved access to terminals at Kingsbury Junction  
Improved performance  
Journey time improvements through Water Orton area



### Birmingham Snow Hill

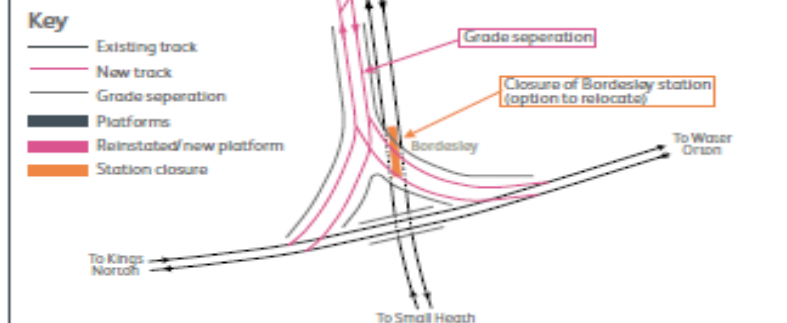
Additional capacity in central Birmingham  
Extension of London terminating services from Moor Street to Snow Hill  
Unlocks platform capacity at Moor Street  
Improved operational flexibility  
Stabling facility for up to 16 vehicles

### Midlands Rail Hub Key



### Kings Norton

Facilitates additional trains services and changed routings into central Birmingham  
Increased capacity in the Kings Norton area  
Cross platform interchange to maintain connections to University and Selly Oak  
Improved station facilities  
Improved performance





# STB Agenda

## Why establish and STB:

- Identified gaps in the strategic planning needs:
  - Pan-Midlands multi-modal needs.
  - Rail franchise geographies.
  - Digital connectivity.
  - Regional prioritisation.
- Identified Benefits:
  - Single, region-wide, voice at a national level (HE, NR and HS2)
  - Recognised role in the shaping of national policy and investment programmes (NIP)
  - Ability to bring East and West together
  - Ensure that future transport reforms are more likely to take account of the Midlands' interests.
- The creation of a sub-national transport body representing the whole of the Midlands creates an opportunity to plug those gaps for the benefit of transport users and the Midlands economy.

# What next?



1. Midlands Connect Final Strategy – March 2017
2. Beyond March 2017 – £12m 3-Year funding announced by SoS at Party Conference: Enabling us to continue our work & take forward our transport strategy.
3. Autumn Statement - £5m towards Midlands Rail Hub
4. MC into statutory footing (STB) by 2018.



**Thank you**  
MARIA MACHANCOS  
MIDLANDS ENGINE & Midlands Connect DIRECTOR