

Appendix 1: NPR Core and TfN Preferred Networks

NPR “Core Network”

Upgrades to the core NPR Liverpool-York transpennine routes, with a mostly new high-speed line between Standedge tunnel (near Huddersfield) and Warrington, via Manchester Piccadilly and Airport stations. Also includes improvements to the existing line between Bradford and Leeds.

Core Network



A new line through Manchester and Manchester Airport with additional upgrades on the Liverpool-Manchester-Leeds-York route.

NPR “TfN Preferred Network”

Mostly new high-speed line between Liverpool-Manchester, Bradford, and Leeds, with new stations at Liverpool, Warrington (underground) and Bradford, and line upgrades to surrounding areas.

TfN Preferred Network



On top of interventions in the Core Network, a new station at Bradford, a new Manchester-Bradford line (via Huddersfield), electrification and upgrades between Manchester-Sheffield, Leeds/Sheffield-Hull and York-Newcastle.

Source: Integrated Rail Plan for the North and Midlands, Technical Annex, January 2022, *Figure 4: NPR network options and costs*, page 15, available online at: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6239a9a6d3bf7f6ac2de752a/integrated-rail-plan-for-the-north-and-midlands-technical-annex.pdf>