Transport for Greater Manchester

Transport for Greater Manchester

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11/11/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Letter of Support for TRU Stalybridge to Diggle TWAO

I would like to confirm TfGM's support for the forthcoming phase of the TransPennine Route Upgrade (TRU) programme and specifically the associated Transport & Works Act Order (TWAO).

While works of this nature can be disruptive to local communities and rail users, TRU represents a vital investment in the North's transport infrastructure and is essential for delivering improved capacity, connectivity, economic growth, and progress towards national decarbonisation goals.

Undoubtedly, the TRU programme is a transformative initiative that will address long-standing challenges on the TransPennine route, which currently accommodates a complex mix of fast express, local stopping, and freight services. Despite its strategic importance, the route has suffered from decades of underinvestment, resulting in congestion and limited capacity to support future growth.

The TWAO - as part of the wider TRU programme - is another step forward for this major infrastructure scheme. It will eventually unlock the potential for more frequent services, faster and more reliable journey times, and enhanced resilience for both passenger and freight traffic between Manchester, Huddersfield, Leeds, and York. TfGM welcomes all of this, especially given the opportunities for enabling service frequency improvements at Mossley and Greenfield stations – both of which are key priorities for local stakeholders.

TRU progress made thus far should be commended. Ultimate delivery of the scheme, with modern signalling (ETCS), improved line speeds, and gauge clearance for freight will significantly enhance the efficiency and sustainability of rail operations for East – West connectivity, with wider indirect pan Northern benefits. The plans for Mossley station is another key element of the scheme, ensuring that all passengers can benefit from improved facilities and inclusive access. We also welcome accessibility and station improvements at Greenfield.

Furthermore, integration with future initiatives such as Northern Powerhouse Rail and the Bee Network is essential for ensuring coordinated delivery and maximising the benefits of investment across the region.

Timely delivery of the TRU programme – and importantly work linked to the TWAO - is a top priority for TfGM. We encourage all industry partners to continue working collaboratively, maintaining a joined-up approach and a focus on delivering best-in-class stakeholder consultation and proactive community and passenger communications.

It's also essential to implement robust alternative travel plans, including effective diversionary routes and reliable rail replacement, as demonstrated during the TRU works. Please continue to keep TfGM updated on milestones and any issues arising.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew Worman
Head of Rail Integration - Bee Network & Rail Reform
Transport for Greater Manchester