



Greenhead College
Greenhead Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD1 4ES
Tel: 01484 422032
Email: college@greenhead.ac.uk
www.greenhead.ac.uk



Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit (TIPU)

Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

11 November 2025

To whom it may concern

RE: Letter of support – Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle (Saddleworth) Enhancements Order

I am writing on behalf of Greenhead College, Huddersfield to express our strong support for the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU) and the proposed Transport and Works Act Order for improvements between Stalybridge and Diggle (Saddleworth).

Greenhead College is one of the top performing Sixth Form Colleges in the country and has maintained its 'Outstanding' Ofsted status for more than 25 years. We have a full-time student body of c.2900 students who come from a range of comprehensive, grammar and independent schools from across West Yorkshire and further afield. The College employs around 300 staff. The performance and reliability of the Transpennine railway are crucial for students arriving to their lessons on time and ultimately it impacts on the success that they achieve.

Utilising Transpennine travel, allows our students to support our approach to sustainability, with the aim of reaching Net Zero by 2038. It allows the College to better support our local community, due to a reduction in car travel.

Many of our learners, staff and their families depend on rail for daily travel to College, extracurricular activities, and wider educational opportunities, with Huddersfield's rail station only a short walk from our campus. Current constraints experienced by our staff, students and partners alike include increased congestion, delayed journeys and limited service capacity. These have posed barriers for too long, restricting access to educational, cultural, and employment opportunities regionally and nationally.

Support for the Order and the wider TRU programme will be transformative. Faster, more frequent, and more reliable trains, alongside modern digital signalling, will ensure our students and staff enjoy safe and efficient access to learning and enrichment far beyond Huddersfield. Upgrades such as improved accessibility at stations mean every member of our diverse community, including those with disabilities or additional needs will benefit from a more inclusive rail network.

As an active community institution, Greenhead College has welcomed opportunities to work with TRU through their local outreach and engagement projects. Our 'Step into Your future' event was a resounding success, inspiring and educating Year 12 students about engineering and sustainability through a series of hands-on workshops. These sessions helped students engage with real-world challenges, from constructing geometric structures fostering teamwork and problem-solving, to learning about eco-efficiency, safe demolition practices relevant to our ongoing campus development, and operating plant machinery simulators. Through TRU work, the partnership extended beyond education with TRU's social value team supporting local community projects and skills development. The collaboration showcases TRU team's visible commitment to local schools, skills development and grant-funded activities that invest in young people's futures and their commitment to investing in the region's future.

We also recognise the scheme's importance for decarbonisation, modal shift, and regional economic regeneration, underpinning the future growth and success of the Huddersfield area. Continued collaboration between the TRU team, local educational partners and the Huddersfield community remains vital as works proceed.

Greenhead College offers its full support for swift delivery of the Order and the realisation of the TRU's potential for students, families, and local communities.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mo Bunter', enclosed within a circular stamp or seal.

Mo Bunter
Principal