

MEDIA STATEMENT

25 JUNE 2013



SYLTE WELCOMES HIGH SPEED RAIL APPOINTMENT

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYLTE) welcomes news that Lord Deighton is to be appointed as chairman of a new High Speed Rail Growth Taskforce.

Lord Deighton, the Commercial Secretary to the Treasury and was responsible for delivering the London Olympic Games as boss of LOCOG, will lead a taskforce in ensuring Sheffield City Region, and other core cities, get the maximum economic benefits that HS2 brings.

The Government expects the new line between Leeds, Manchester and London to deliver economic benefits of over £50 billion and create over 100,000 jobs.

It was announced in January that the preferred option is for a HS2 station to be built close to Meadowhall, just off the M1, as part of the second phase of the network. Lord Deighton's taskforce will focus on maximising regional and national growth opportunities around the stations and surrounding communities.

SYLTE Interim Director of Strategy, Julie Hurley, said: "We welcome the announcement that Lord Deighton will be leading the HS2 taskforce in maximising the opportunities that this project will bring to our region. Lord Deighton's appointment brings his successful experience of delivering high profile, large scale projects, from which HS2 will benefit.

"HSR will open up new markets, along with business and job opportunities, bringing crucial investment to the north. By connecting people and businesses HS2 will act as a catalyst in regenerating Sheffield City Region and surrounding areas.

"Our research shows that it could generate an estimated £2.6 billion of local economic benefits on the eastern arm of the Y-shaped network, on top of the predicted £50 billion of national transport benefits."

For more information visit syltp.org.uk/hs2

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For more information contact the SYLTE Communications team on **0114 221 1443** or at communications@syltp.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

- SYPTE has a unique role in planning for South Yorkshire's future public transport network, and in a supporting role to work with partners to identify, develop and deliver key multi-modal strategic priorities, at a sub-regional and national level.
- SYPTE secures funding for South Yorkshire's key public transport priorities to enable investment where the need is identified.
- SYPTE addresses customer requirements to deliver successful, efficient and value for money solutions.
- SYPTW 'owns' and addresses customer requirements to deliver successful, efficient and value for money solutions.
- SYPTE continues to build on strong working relationships with local, sub-regional and national partners, delivering innovative and pioneering projects that test the boundaries and deliver results.
- SYPTE listens to customers to understand and respond to their needs.
- SYPTE has a track record of successful delivery
- SYPTE delivers public transport programs that would otherwise not be possible

SYITA and SYPTE are members of the Travel South Yorkshire partnership. The aim of the partnership is to bring public transport together, encourage more people to use it, make it easier to understand and deliver new, innovative public transport products and services. All the transport operators in the county are also members of the Travel South Yorkshire partnership. For more information visit travelsouthyorkshire.com

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