

Businesses urged to have their say on Midlands Rail Hub

May 9, 2023



Midlands Connect have launched an [online business survey](#) and are urging firms to ‘make their voices heard’ over plans for the flagship rail improvement project the Midlands Rail Hub.

This survey will close on Friday 16th June, with results to be announced soon after.

Click [here](#) to take the survey, which will take just a few minutes to complete.

Midlands Rail Hub is Midlands Connect biggest and most ambitious rail improvement scheme – a £900m – £1.5bn blueprint for faster, better and more frequent connections across the Midlands.

Passenger rail usage in the Midlands is growing faster than anywhere else in the UK, but without investment, the region’s rail network can’t keep pace with this record demand, and many services remain slow and infrequent. The scheme will add more than 14 million more seats on the rail network each year and provide faster, more frequent or new rail links for over 30 locations including: Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Nuneaton, Worcester, Hereford, Cardiff, Bristol, Cheltenham and Leicester. It will also bring 1.6 million more people to within an hour of the region’s biggest towns and cities by public transport.

The Midlands Rail Hub proposes building two 'chords' as well as 11 further engineering interventions throughout the region to deliver a massive step change in rail transport in the Midlands. The project will also maximise the benefits of HS2 and safeguard 1,600 jobs in the engineering and construction sector.

Commenting on the survey's release, Midlands Connect Senior Rail Programme Manager Andy Clark said: "We are calling on employers and businesses throughout the Midlands to get involved in our online consultation to ensure their voices are heard. We want to know what the impact the Midlands Rail Hub could have on businesses and specifically if it could lead to more jobs being created and increased growth in the local economy.

"Through providing new chords and platforms in Birmingham, it provides capacity for up to ten additional trains per hour in and out of the city, to locations in the Midlands and beyond. We are really keen to hear from businesses in Bromsgrove, Nuneaton, Hereford, Worcester and firms throughout the Midlands and all the data given to us by local businesses will be weaved into future work we are submitting to government to help make the case for investment in this nationally critical rail project."

Photo credit: Shutterstock