

Iconic building at Swindon station has a brighter future as Network Rail takes back control

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One of the most recognisable buildings in Swindon which is right next to the town's station is set to get a new lease of life after Network Rail took back its ownership earlier this month.

Signal Point is steeped in railway history and still bears a huge British Rail logo on the front of the building and now Network Rail has plans to improve its look and present it as an iconic entrance to Swindon.

Network Rail have been trying to regain control of Signal Point for some years and have finally got it back into the railway family.

Mike Gallop, Network Rail's Western route director, said: "We are excited that we can now start to plan how Signal Point and the land around it can be restored in line with plans that Swindon Borough Council have to regenerate the area.

"We will now work with the council to help develop Swindon station and the town as a whole."

Councillor Dale Heenan, Swindon Borough Council's cabinet member for the town centre, said: "This is fantastic news and I think every resident and business will look forward to seeing this prominent office block back in use.

"I have been pushing hard behind the scenes for some time to get this landmark building sorted, and progress has been confidential so I am delighted Network Rail has finally made it happen.

"Signal Point is often visitors' first view of Swindon, and this building is part of our jigsaw for the town centre. Piece by piece we are seeing progress."

Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC MP, Member for South Swindon, added: "Signal Point occupies an important gateway site in Swindon, and I am very pleased that Network Rail not only have taken back ownership but also have committed to Improving Signal Point and the land around it, which will improve the appearance of this part of our town centre. I look forward to seeing swift progress."

Photo credit: Network Rail

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