

# New station to revitalise Tees rail network

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Plans have been drawn up for an exciting new railway station to revitalise Teesside's transport links.

The proposed park and ride interchange between Nunthorpe and Guisborough is a joint project between Redcar & Cleveland and Middlesbrough Councils and the Tees Valley Combined Authority aimed at easing road congestion and improving access to East Cleveland

The new station – provisionally named Roseberry Parkway – will serve a population of around 70,000 people in East Cleveland, Guisborough, South Middlesbrough and parts of North Yorkshire.

The 21st century facility will bring together trains, buses, cycle provision and parking to create an integrated hub serving Guisborough and East Cleveland, Stokesley and villages in North Yorkshire.

In addition to existing trains from to Newcastle, Carlisle and Whitby, it is hoped services to Middlesbrough will increase to every half hour, while the number of daily trains travelling to Whitby could be doubled.

The two local authorities are currently working in partnership with Tees Valley Combined Authority, Arriva, Northern and Network Rail, with an outline business case due to be drawn up later this year.

Middlesbrough Mayor Andy Preston said: "Good transport links are vital for a vibrant and successful local economy, and that's why it's essential that we work together to find the right solutions.

“This exciting proposal is a fantastic example of that approach, creating an innovative and forward-thinking facility that will improve access to employment, education, healthcare and other services.

“In the long term it is also estimated the parkway station will help to divert at least 30,000 car trips every year from the ‘Marton Crawl’.”

Cllr Mary Lanigan, Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, said: “This is fantastic news for the region and particularly for people living in the towns and villages of East Cleveland.

“One of our priorities is to improve public transport and provide better connectivity for everyone.

“There are some communities where this has been a challenge but this link will help provide a vital link to help people to work, study or access key services, such as healthcare.

“We are delighted to see these plans come to fruition and we will continue to develop further plans to improve transport links in East Cleveland.”

Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland MP Simon Clarke added: “This is a really exciting moment in our shared mission to deliver a lasting solution to traffic congestion in south Middlesbrough, while also improving transport links across East Cleveland.

“The opportunity to create a new station with both Park and Ride and proper interconnection with local bus services is a hugely ambitious scheme that I hope local people will warmly support.

“Both Andy and Mary have been a breath of fresh air since they became Mayor and Council leader respectively and we’ve resolved to work together to design the best possible scheme that makes it easier for people to get to school, work or the shops in our part of the Tees Valley.

“We’ll also be reaching out to Ben Houchen as the process moves forward so that he can help us to make the funding case to Transport for the North and the Department for Transport – but for today’s announcement our message is clear: there’s a plan, it’s a good one and we’re all looking forward to the next steps.”