

# Transport for the North chief executive visits Hull to discuss Northern Transport Charter

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Transport for the North (TfN) chief executive Martin Tugwell has been in Hull to set out how TfN's Northern Transport Charter can help to unlock the city's economic potential and in particular the key role that investment in its transport system can have.

Among the stop offs included a visit to Hull Paragon Interchange, where he met with Councillor Daren Hale, leader of Hull City Council, along with senior council officers, to hear first-hand their views on the opportunities across the city's transport network and how TfN can support them in making the case for the investment that will support local residents and businesses.

He also visited Murdoch's Connection footbridge over the A63, then the Mytongate Underpass site to view the plans and progress on the A63 Castle Street project, R-evolution cycle hub at Trinity Market.

Martin said: "Hull has seen underinvestment in its transport system for too long. As a global gateway to the UK, now with Freeport status, Hull's ambition, enterprise and aspiration need to be supported if we are to see levelling up in action.

“I’ve seen first-hand what can be done in Hull when it is given the opportunity. The works to the A63, which will improve access to the port, relieve congestion and integrate active travel networks, are just one example of the type of transport investment needed to support growth and enhance connectivity.

“Like many in Hull, we were disappointed that the published Integrated Rail Plan did not include specific proposals for Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire. However, we remain committed to working with the area’s political and business leaders to make the case for the investment that will help support Hull’s ambition.

“Our Northern Transport Charter sets out our offer to Government that shows by strengthening our collaboration we can unlock the economic potential of Hull and the wider North.”

Launched at TfN’s annual conference last September, the Northern Transport Charter sets out a road map towards further long-term devolution of transport-related powers to the North.

Councillor Hale, leader of Hull City Council and the city’s representative on the TfN board, said: “The North of England has experienced prolonged underinvestment over many years, and the contribution that Hull could make has been discounted for too long.

“The city has much to offer but there must be a process of levelling up and investing in the North to enable the economic potential of the city to be realised.

“Working as a strategic partner alongside Transport for the North provides us with greater opportunity to secure future transport investment, deliver an integrated transport network that is fit for purpose and meet the challenges that face us and every other major town and city.”

*Photo credit: Hull City Council*