

# DESTINATION DERBY

**#DERBYGBR**

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS COMPETITION  
FOR GREAT BRITISH RAILWAYS**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST  
FROM DERBY CITY COUNCIL**



Derby City Council

**MARCH 2022**

Organisations involved in developing and/or supporting our application include:



# 1. CONTEXT

This application to host the headquarters of Great British Railways (GBR) is submitted by the City of Derby with the full support of the East Midlands.

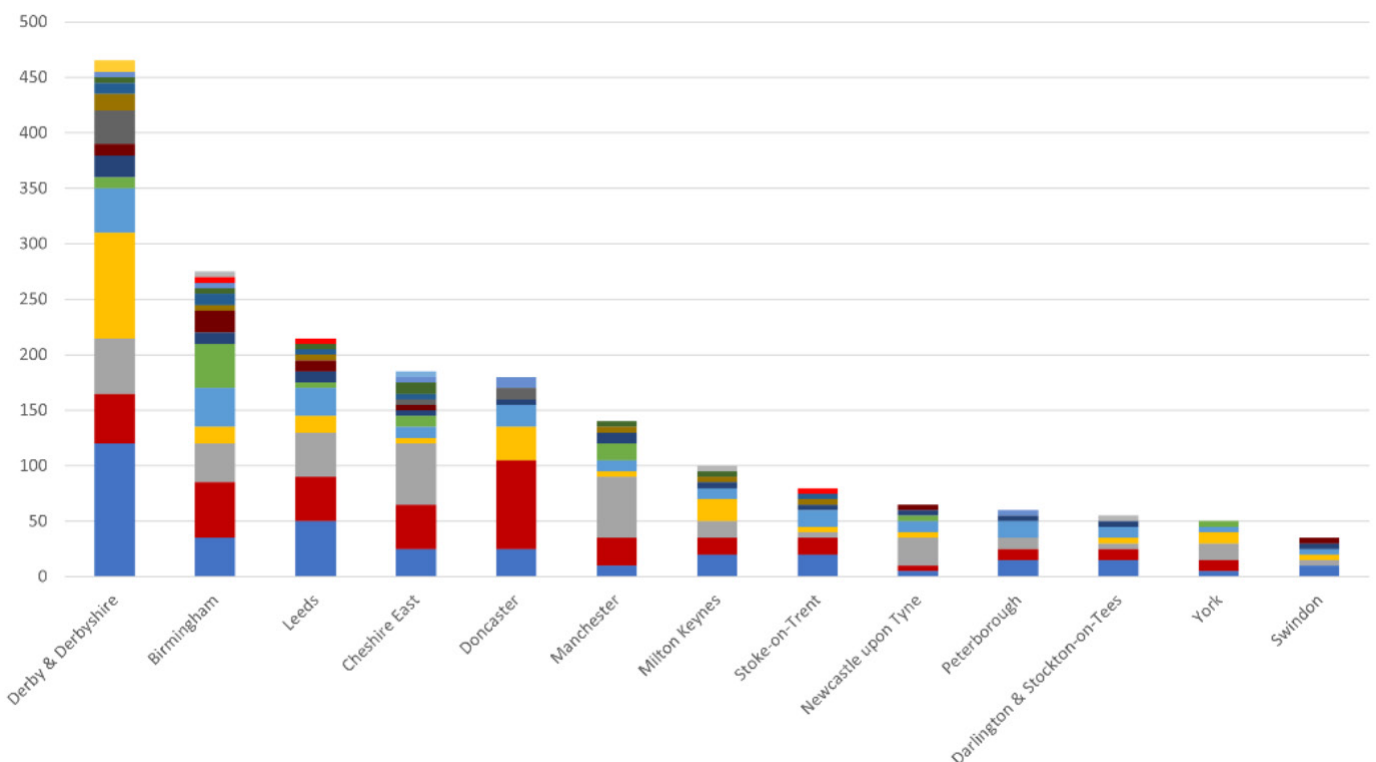
## WHY DERBY?

The success of Britain's railway is vital to the economy and people of the UK. For GBR to succeed, it must work with the whole rail industry as well as with other sectors to draw upon a broad range of skills and specialisms. Centred around Derby, the East Midlands is the rail capital of the UK, with a global reputation for excellence. Whilst Derby has a long 180+ year rail history, it remains home to a thriving rail ecosystem.

Derby is made for GBR because it is:

- **One of the first great British railway towns.** From 1839 the railway transformed Derby from a market town to an industrial powerhouse.
- **The only city to have manufactured rolling stock continuously since 1840,** it is still home to the UK's most extensive train manufacturing capability. This proud tradition continues with Alstom to build HS2 trains.
- **The geographic and strategic heart of Britain's railway.** Derby offers direct rail access to London, Edinburgh and Cardiff as well as all five network regions.
- **Home to Europe's largest cluster of private-sector rail businesses.** Co-locating GBR in Derby will accelerate public-private partnerships, grow skills, stimulate innovation and accelerate transport decarbonisation.

Number of UK Rail sector businesses as defined by 5-digit SIC code by location (BEIS 2021)



- **A centre of railway skills** - with over 11,000 highly skilled rail employees based in the Derby area and 45,000 rail related jobs across the East Midlands\* – delivering train building and refurbishment, infrastructure maintenance and renewals, operations, digital technology, safety management, specialist finance and other key roles.

*(source: Oxford Economics/Rail Industry Association, 2021).*

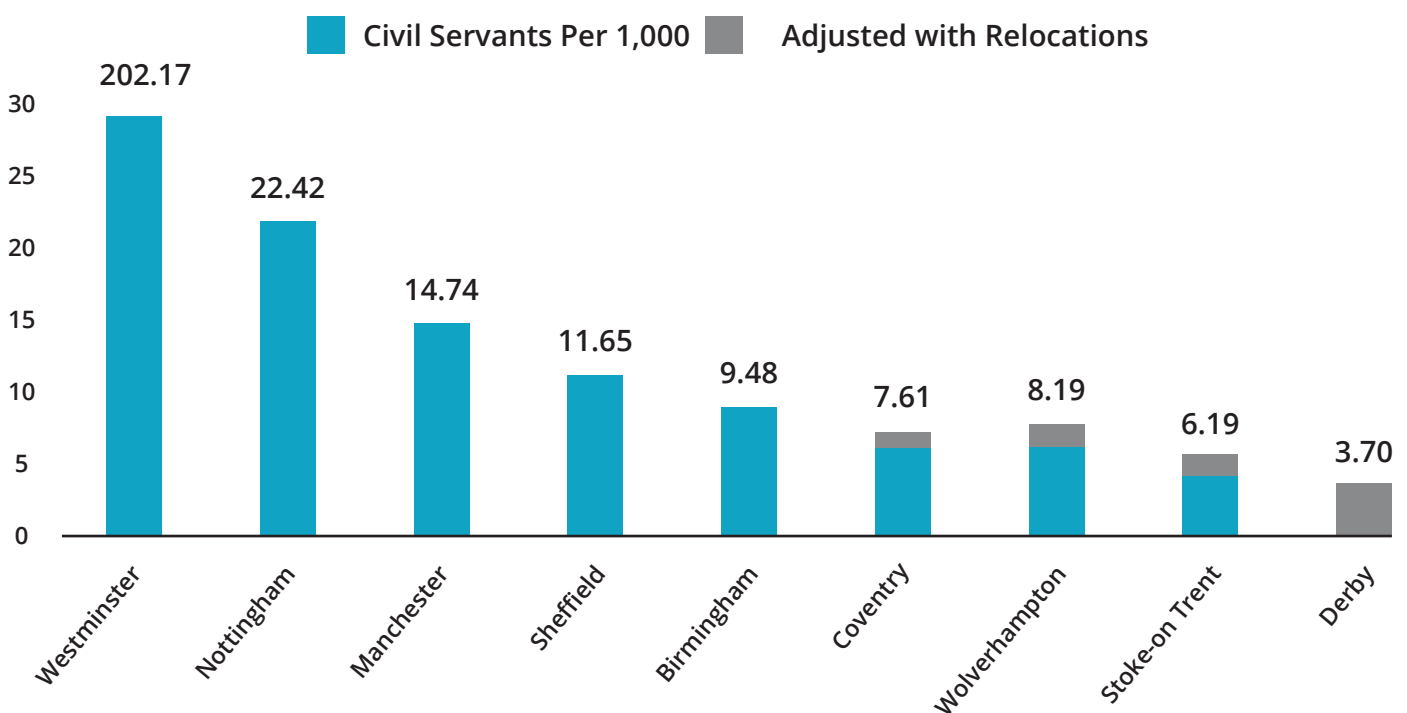
- **Able to contribute significantly to the government’s levelling-up agenda**, GBR will help stimulate economic and employment growth across the East Midlands – Derby is yet to benefit from significant relocation of strategic government operations.
- **The continuing home of rail research**. In 1935 the LMS Scientific Research Laboratory was established which evolved into the globally recognised British Rail Railway Technical Centre, opened in 1964. This tradition of innovation continues today through specialist rail consultancies, dynamic SMEs and the University of Derby’s Rail Research & Innovation Centre.
- **An industrial ecosystem which supports skills transfer and cross-sector collaboration**, which will be key to the success of Britain’s railway, with Derby being home to Rolls Royce and Toyota and their respective supply chains.

## BENEFITS FOR THE CITY, THE REGION AND THE RAIL INDUSTRY

Hosting GBR’s HQ would unite all aspects of the railway, help improve decision making, give Derby a much-needed economic stimulus and global recognition as well as boost civic pride.

- Bringing GBR to Derby – a city with one of the lowest concentrations of UK civil servants – will create civil service jobs and address the recent omission of Derby from Government relocations out of Whitehall.

*Civil Servants Per 1,000 Population*



- It will give Government recognition to the City's historic claim to be at the heart of Britain's rail industry, giving Derby a renewed sense of civic pride and purpose.
- It will further energise a thriving rail cluster, supporting the wider regeneration of the city – creating new demand for workspace, hotels, city living and more.
- As the strategic and service heart of the railway it will facilitate public and private sector partnerships to deliver cost-effective rail sector growth as envisaged by the Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail.
- At the same time it will encourage rail-related overseas investment into the East Midlands region, as well as acting as the central location for UK PLC to showcase our rail expertise and products to markets across the world.
- For young people in the East Midlands and throughout the UK it will promote the diverse range of skills and disciplines that makes today's railway an exciting place to work.
- Located alongside major players in the automotive and aerospace sectors it will create a Midlands-wide transport ecosystem with a global reach.

## UNIQUE SITE OPTION

Derby has a unique and exciting primary option for the HQ location. London & Continental Railways, a DfT owned company, owns and operates RTC Derby. This is a site which has the potential for immediate development to provide a flexible and unique opportunity for GBR on the footprint of existing rail industry infrastructure. Repurposing an existing site will provide a sustainable solution thereby contributing to the overall public value delivered by GBR.

Formerly the Railway Technical Centre (RTC), this site would offer:

- **A contemporary and flexible space for the GBR headquarters** – adaptable to meet requirements as they evolve.
- **A DfT solution for a DfT enterprise** – providing excellent value for money.
- **A site at the heart of the rail cluster** – with a range of rail companies already based there
- **A highly accessible location**, adjacent to the rail network, a short walk from Derby Station and opposite the UK's largest rail manufacturing facility.
- **The opportunity to build directly on Derby's rich rail heritage.**

Earlier phases of modernisation of RTC Derby have already attracted new companies and allowed current tenants to expand their operations. The latest phase of investment will create a prominent new office building designed around GBR's needs.



# BACK DERBY'S BID

## WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FROM INDUSTRY, WESTMINSTER AND BEYOND

Derby's bid for the HQ of GBR is supported across our City and Region - see page 2.

### Members of Parliament supporting this application:

- **Pauline Latham** (*Mid Derbyshire*)
- **Amanda Solloway** (*Derby North*)
- **Margaret Beckett** (*Derby South*)
- **Heather Wheeler** (*South Derbyshire*)
- **Mark Fletcher** (*Bolsover*)
- **Lee Rowley** (*NE Derbyshire*)
- **Robert Largan** (*High Peak*)
- **Toby Perkins** (*Chesterfield*)
- **Sarah Dines** (*Derbyshire Dales*)
- **Maggie Throup** (*Erewash*)
- **Andrew Bridgen** (*NW Leicestershire*)
- **Brendan Clarke-Smith** (*Bassetlaw*)
- **Lilian Greenwood** (*Nottingham South*)
- **Alex Norris** (*Nottingham North*)
- **Nigel Mills** (*Amber Valley*)
- **Ben Bradley** (*Mansfield*)
- **Lee Anderson** (*Ashfield*)
- **Ruth Edwards** (*Rushcliffe*)
- **Karen Bradley** (*Staffordshire Moorlands*)
- **Alex Norris** (*Nottingham North*)
- **Dr Luke Evans** (*Bosworth*)
- **Andrew Lewer** (*Northampton South*)

Plus **Lord Ravensdale** – *Joint Chair of Midlands Engine APPG.*

## 2. LEVELLING UP

**Our vision is to build on our strengths, being a key UK centre of excellence in advanced manufacturing, while addressing acknowledged weaknesses, such as improving opportunities for all our communities to access higher-paid employment opportunities.**

Derby is one of the UK's most central and connected cities – by rail, road and air. We have a strong industrial heritage with aerospace, rail and advanced manufacturing a major part of the local economy and labour market – and home to the primary UK sites for Rolls Royce (aerospace, nuclear, submarines), Toyota (automotive) and a highly diverse rail sector. The Derby city region has a large business base and is a major contributor to the national economy – GDP of £15bn (2018). We are also a key centre for technological innovation - Derby's high-technology patent registration rates are significantly higher than the UK average.

However, these impressive headlines mask some key socio-economic vulnerabilities – below we explain in more detail, in the context of the relevant Levelling Up Missions:

### EDUCATION, SKILLS AND PROSPERITY

**One third of Derby's working age residents has an advanced qualification (degree or higher), but this is below the national average. One in five Derby working-age residents has low or no formal qualification, higher than the national average, but the City has seen a significant reduction in low-skilled residents since 2010 (36.6% in 2010 to 21.6% in 2019).**

In addition:

- On average 38% of pupils achieve a Grade 5 or above in Maths and English compared to 43% nationally;
- Derby is ranked 67th out of 317 local authority areas on the IMD (index of multiple deprivation) – but Derby performs relatively well in terms of low levels of crime, access to housing and the living environment;
- Gross median annual pay of people who work full-time in Derby is about 27% higher than gross median annual pay of Derby's residents - £40,722 vs £32,181.

To address these challenges, significant investment is being made in education and skills:

- **The East Midlands Institute of Technology**, recently approved by Government, will be a physical manifestation of the Government's Higher Technical Qualifications initiative and will be based at the Derby College Roundhouse Campus with its rail and engineering heritage along with sites at the University of Derby, Loughborough University and Loughborough College. The East Midlands IoT will focus on levelling-up the critical engineering, manufacturing and digital skills needed by employers to address the grand engineering challenges of clean growth. The IoT will be working closely with global employers including Rolls-Royce, Toyota, National Grid ESO, Alstom and Fujitsu.





*Investing in our future – East Midlands IOT and University of Derby Business School*

- **University of Derby Business School** - superb new teaching facilities will build on the University's established reputation for inspirational teaching and research excellence, as we shape the next generation of highly qualified business leaders.
- **DRIVe** – Derbyshire Rail Industry Innovation Vehicle – part of the Staveley Town Deal and based at the iconic Barrow Hill Roundhouse – a new innovation and training centre – delivering training aligned with the new rail apprenticeship standards.
- **New Education Investment Areas** – Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire are all to benefit from the Government's recently announced areas for additional investment to drive school education outcomes.



*Then and now - Derby rail apprentices 1954 and 2022*



## PRODUCTIVITY AND INNOVATION

Whilst manufacturing accounts for almost a quarter of economic output in Derby, the digital sector is under-represented - business concentration stands at about 85% of the national average, although growth in the sector (+37.6% since 2010) has been faster than nationally.

Derby has a relatively high rate of new business start-ups, but survival rates are lower than the national average. Employees account for 90.1% of Derby's working age (16-64) residents in employment, while we have relatively low self-employment.

We are investing in productivity, innovation and competitiveness:

- **Innovation ecosystem** – key developments include the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (supported by Getting Building Fund), part of the national Catapult network.
- **Ascend** – a Derby City Council funded programme to support high growth businesses through tailored mentoring, investment readiness support and access to finance. This aims to diversify the local economy around fast growing tech sectors.
- **The East Midlands Freeport**, announced by the Government in March 2021 and the only inland Freeport in England, will create a globally connected, world-leading advanced manufacturing and logistics hub at the heart of the UK.

## PRIDE IN PLACE AND HOUSING

Even pre-Covid, town and city centres were suffering a decline in footfall as consumer behaviour changed. The pandemic has accelerated these challenges and the city centre features strongly in Derby City Council's plans for levelling-up.

We are:

- **Supporting businesses coming back to the city centre** and helping property owners to invest in the repurposing of city centre buildings, using the Government's Additional Restrictions Grant;
- **Investing in major new regeneration projects** such as Becketwell, (supported by the Local Growth Fund via the D2N2 LEP) and the Market Hall (supported by the Future High Streets Fund);
- **Creating new opportunities for city living**, such as the Castleward Urban Village, delivering 800 new homes and creating a more attractive pedestrian route from the station to the city centre (supported by Homes England), and 259 build to rent apartments funded by Grainger plc;
- **Beyond the city centre**, and supported by the Levelling Up Fund, the £55M A50 junction and link road is being progressed to facilitate development of 4,500 new homes within the South Derby Growth Zone.

## POTENTIAL GBR IMPACT

The Levelling Up White Paper specifically references the Midlands rail cluster as one of the largest in the world; our vision places GBR at the very heart of that cluster. This would build on the legacy of other successful industry-government collaborations such as those in Sellafield (nuclear) and Abbey Wood, Bristol (defence).

Across Derby and the East Midlands, the levelling-up impact of the GBR HQ would be transformational:

- Maximising the value associated with Derby/Derbyshire's pathfinder status for county deals, providing a clear sectoral focus for our economic growth asks;
- Providing the region with a renewed sense of purpose and direction, attracting further rail investment across the private sector;
- A catalyst for further growth of the transport industry cluster across the whole of the Midlands, complementing the automotive sector in the West Midlands and the DfT/HS2 centres in Birmingham;
- Encouraging further cross-sectoral supply chain collaboration across rail, automotive, aerospace and nuclear, driving SME competitiveness;
- Inspiring young people towards rail careers, building on the iRail, Destination Rail and Primary Engineer Rail school engagement programmes – and anchoring talent in the region;
- Providing new impetus and focus for Derby's Future Fuels ambitions, synergistic with existing activity led by the rail sector and beyond, involving partners such as Alstom, Porterbrook, Rolls Royce, Toyota and others;
- Driving new regeneration opportunities, for example the potential to develop a rail innovation campus in and around RTC Derby.

## 3. CONNECTED AND EASY TO GET TO

*"Derby is also the location of Sperry's European Headquarters because of its connectivity – geographically the city is positioned centrally in the UK and provides the fastest access to all points of the UK, as well as easy access to suppliers and clients in mainland Europe."* Justin Stroud, Managing Director, Sperry Europe

### CENTRAL, CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE

Derby is well connected to locations throughout the UK. We are at the heart of the national rail network, with fast regular trains to London, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Bristol, York and Leeds and direct access to all five regions of the network.

Within the recently announced Integrated Rail Plan for the North and Midlands, investment in rail infrastructure will further improve journey times from Derby: 58 minutes to London and 30 minutes to Birmingham.

The East Midlands also benefits from extensive air and road connections (M1 North-South and A50/A500 East-West) and has easy access to East Coast Ports via rail routes and the M1. The East Midlands Freeport, centred around East Midlands Airport, will further enhance international connectivity.

RTC Derby is a short walk from Derby rail station and located on London Road, one of the city's key public transport corridors with bus services in both directions every 6 minutes, giving exceptional links to suburban areas and city centre transport hubs. Bus reliability and sustainability is being enhanced through Derby's Transforming Cities Programme. Access to the north of the site will be enhanced by the introduction of a Rapid Mass Transport service, linking the north of the city centre, bus and rail stations, to Pride Park.

## SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION – IN RAIL AND BEYOND

There are many examples in the East Midlands and beyond of an ethos of collaboration benefiting the rail sector:

### Rail R&D:

- **HyDEX** – Universities of Nottingham and Derby - development of a hydrogen retrofit flexi-fuel engine with digital twin;
- **Decarbonisation of railfreight** – Universities of Nottingham and Derby engaging with industry, Government and sector organisations and road-mapping the transition to net-zero;
- **Innovate 4 Rail** – Rail Forum Midlands and Universities of Birmingham and Derby - to stimulate and support innovation and drive productivity;
- **Encsite** – University of Derby and Aston University to support transport supply chains;
- **Railfreight Energy and Emissions Calculator (REEC)** – Universities of Derby and Hull;
- **DRIVE (Derbyshire Rail Industry Innovation Vehicle), Barrow Hill, Chesterfield** – 1400sqm rail innovation and training centre – Universities of Derby and Newcastle and Chesterfield College – focused on energy optimisation, smart maintenance and digital.

### Other collaborative projects/programmes:

- **Rail Forum Midlands** – based in Derby at the heart of the UK rail industry, RFM represents a community of over 300 member companies across all areas of industry;
- **HS2 rolling stock contract** – contract awarded to joint venture between Alstom (Derby / Crewe) and Hitachi (Newton Aycliffe);
- **T-DREAM (Toyota-Derby Revolution in Energy and Access to Mobility)** – partnership agreement between Derby City Council and Toyota - to develop innovative mobility solutions and tackle climate change;
- **Transforming Cities Fund programme** – £161M programme of transport improvements secured by Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council to improve connections between major employment sites and promote active travel and public transport;
- **East Midlands Institute of Technology** – £13M collaboration between University of Derby, Loughborough College, Loughborough University and the Derby College Groupw – focused on developing future digital skills.

## 4. OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREAT BRITISH RAILWAYS

*"...the East Midlands is one of the largest rail clusters in Europe.....the success of UK rail will owe much to the successful nurturing of these clusters."*

Rail Sector Deal – UK Government, 2018

### RAIL CAPITAL OF THE UK

If GBR is to achieve its ambitious objectives, it will need to closely engage and collaborate with the wider rail sector and beyond, across a range of agendas and disciplines. Centred around Derby, the East Midlands is the rail capital of the UK and Europe's densest rail cluster with an international reputation for excellence: the natural choice for GBR's HQ.

Other potential locations may also have a long rail history, no other is still home to a diverse and highly innovative, competitive and forward-looking rail supply chain and talent pool – the ideal environment for GBR to drive its vision for a better railway.



*Distribution of rail businesses across our region*

The cluster has an estimated 600 companies linked to the rail sector and there are around 45,000 rail related jobs across the East Midlands.

Activities include:

- **Operators and regulators** – East Midlands Railway, DB Cargo, Nottingham Trams, Network Rail and Rail Accident Investigation Branch
- **Research and innovation** – University of Derby (Rail Research & Innovation Centre), University of Nottingham (Resilience Engineering / Human Factors), Loughborough University (Control Systems), Network Rail's Tuxford and Melton Mowbray Rail Innovation & Development Centres and Porterbrook's Long Marston Rail Innovation Centre
- **Digital and data** – Resonate, Siemens, Hitachi, TrainFX

- **Manufacturing, maintenance and testing** – Balfour Beatty, Alstom, Sperry Rail, Railcare, Loram, AB Hoses
- **Technical services** – Serco, SNC Lavalin, DB ESG, ECSL, Ricardo, TXM Consulting
- **Finance** – Porterbrook, Angel Trains



## LEARNING FROM THE RAIL SECTOR AND BEYOND

*“Great British Railways will be expected to learn from the best elements of the public and private models, and to be entrepreneurial and actively promote the railways and the many businesses that serve it and support it.”* Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail, May 2021

The region already has many organisations fulfilling the vision of the Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail:

- Rail decarbonisation requires innovation and collaboration with the private sector – GBR can immediately engage with strong organisations such as both Porterbrook and Alstom (in conjunction with Eversholt Rail) who are leading on hydrogen powered trains, Rolls Royce (developing HybridFLEX, a hybrid diesel-battery-electric train in conjunction with Porterbrook) and the Universities of Derby and Nottingham (collaborating on a railfreight decarbonisation programme);
- We will work with the National Skills Academy for Rail to develop a sector-wide People Strategy that can utilise industry specialists and create pilot skills development programmes. This will build on:
  - **iRail**, the longest-running rail-specific schools engagement programme in the UK (13 years);
  - **The new Institute of Technology**, in which GBR has the opportunity to become an active partner;
  - **Engagement with leading industrial employers** such as Fujitsu, Toyota, Alstom, National Grid and Rolls Royce;
  - **Diversity and inclusion** – GBR can build on the work of Rolls Royce, which is in the UK’s ‘Stonewall Top 100 Employers’ List and rated ‘Gold’ for LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer +) inclusion;



- Creating a customer-focused ethos – GBR can learn best practice from consumer-focused brands– such as Toyota (with its ‘customer first’ philosophy) and TrainFX (customer facing digital technology).

## UNIQUE RAIL ENVIRONMENT

### RTC Derby:

- Is located at the heart of the Derby rail cluster and adjacent to the rail network;
- Has a community of rail businesses including Siemens, Loram, Hitachi, Serco, Atkins, DB ESG and Sperry Rail (plus Network Rail)
- Offers a flexible and scalable solution with co-working and collaboration spaces;
- Provides the opportunity for GBR to co-design its HQ with sister DfT company London & Continental Railways.



*The opportunity to locate GBR at the very heart of Europe's leading rail cluster*

Locating GBR alongside the East Midlands rail cluster will:

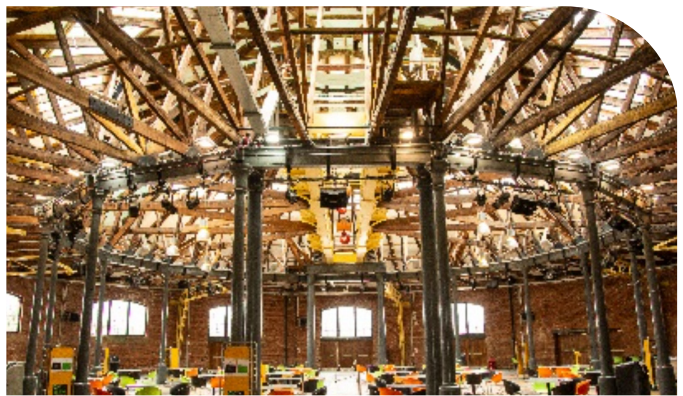
- Bring track, train and supply chain together in one location
- Create a new railway culture that encourages innovation, improves productivity and delivers value for money
- Accelerate decision making ensuring a cost effective delivery of the Whole Industry Strategic Plan
- Develop a Midlands-wide transport super-cluster; able to sell products and services worldwide.

# 5. RAILWAY HERITAGE AND LINKS TO THE NETWORK

## PIVOTAL RAILWAY CENTRE

Railways came to Derby in 1839 with the opening of the Midland Counties Railway. Ever since it has been a centre of rail administration, manufacturing and innovation.

Derby's transformation from a market town to an industrial centre was accelerated by the arrival of three railways – the Birmingham & Derby Junction, Midland Counties and North Midland Railways, which shared the 'Tri Junct' station, perhaps the world's first rail hub. The three companies soon established engineering and maintenance facilities around the station and surviving buildings from this period, including the Roundhouse, Railway Cottages and Midland Hotel are some of the oldest railway buildings in the world. In 1844 they united to form the Midland Railway, then the largest railway in Britain under single management, headquartered at Derby Station and the city's largest employer.



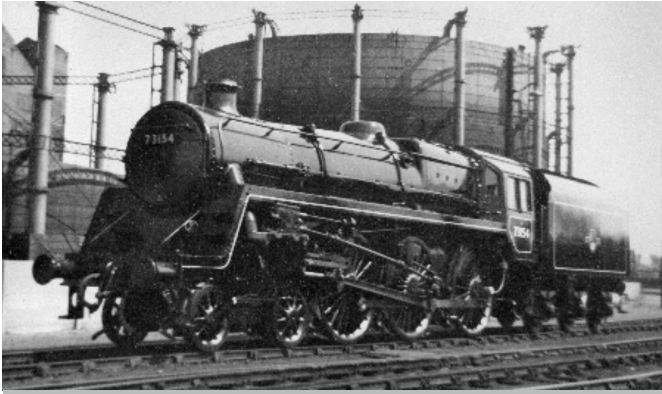
*Oldest railway roundhouse in the UK – pictured in 1960  
- now part of the Derby College Campus opened in 2009*

Since 1840 railway vehicles have been manufactured in Derby, a tradition that continues today with Alstom supplying the new HS2 trains.

## KEY HISTORIC MILESTONES IN DERBY'S RAIL HISTORY INCLUDE:

- **1839** – Railways commence operating in Derby (and carriage building starts)
- **1844** – Midland Railway established (Derby HQ)
- **1851** – First locomotive built in Derby (number 147)
- **1947** – Britain's first mainline diesel-electric locomotive built in Derby (number 10000)
- **1957** – last of 2,941 Derby-built steam locomotives (number 73154)
- **1963** – last steam locomotive repaired (number 75042)
- **1967** – last new diesel locomotive (number D7677) – over 1,000 diesels built in Derby
- **1975** – world's most iconic and successful diesel passenger trains - InterCity 125 (HST), designed (and coaches built) in Derby
- **1989** – UK's first aluminium-bodied train (Class 158) designed and built in Derby
- **2022** – Derby designed and built Class 345 trains go into service on the Elizabeth Line in London





*The story continues - last steam engine built in Derby (1957) to the new HS2 trains of the future*

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN RAIL INNOVATION

From the early days of the new LMS Railway formed in 1923, Derby was at the forefront of research and technological development. The LMS Scientific Research Department was established in 1933 and subsequently became the Railway Technical Centre (RTC), the first part of which was opened in 1964. This is the proposed location for the GBR HQ.

The RTC was established to be a global leader in railway innovation, its proximity to Derby's aerospace industry was not by chance. In one location specialisms from across the rail industry were co-located, "...the intention being that the cross fertilisation of ideas and the free exchange of information would stimulate an innovative atmosphere greatly beneficial to the railway as a whole." These included:

- Central Purchasing (relocated from Euston)
- Design Office (staff relocated from Swindon, Doncaster, Eastleigh, Crewe and Glasgow)
- Rolling Stock Development Unit (from Darlington)
- Plastics Development Unit (from Eastleigh).

At its peak the 23 acre site hosted more than 2,000 staff, and investment in the RTC and associated facilities would amount to around £200M in today's terms.

Today, Derby and the East Midlands is still the UK's leading centre of rail innovation, across a rich range of research institutions and the private sector supply chain, including:

- Resonate - digital railway and connected transport solutions
- University of Derby (Rail Research & Innovation Centre)
- University of Nottingham (Network Rail Strategic University Partner)
- Loughborough University (Control Systems)
- Tuxford Rail Innovation & Development Centre (Network Rail)
- Long Marston Rail Innovation Centre (Porterbrook)

In our primary site option for the HQ, RTC Derby, is a unique opportunity to preserve and build on Derby's distinctive rail heritage. Established by the BR Board, it is today home to a dynamic community of rail businesses. London & Continental Railways ambitious redevelopment plans will provide a new and cost effective HQ fit for the 21st century.

## 6. VALUE FOR MONEY

### UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

RTC Derby, our primary site option, provides outstanding value for money and a unique opportunity to build on the UK's rail innovation history. It has a long history as a centre for rail innovation and excellence. It remains a cluster for rail businesses wishing to locate together. The complex offers a combination of office, workshop and laboratory space, with a total floor space of 320,000 sq. ft across 26 acres. RTC Derby is a DfT asset managed by London & Continental Railways.



*RTC Derby - 21st century HQ, building on our unique rail innovation heritage*

Derby City Council is very familiar with the site and based on our knowledge and understanding of the scope with RTC, we believe it would be ideal for GBR's corporate headquarters offering the opportunity to create a scalable, flexible and contemporary space.

This site solution is outstanding value for money, uses the existing public rail estate, and builds on Britain's outstanding rail heritage.

Other site options have also been considered and can be progressed if required:

- **Council House, Derby City Centre** – should GBR require an immediate public estate property solution to base an initial project team, Derby City Council would offer space within its main office headquarters in the city centre.
- **Jubilee House** – prominent HQ building on Pride Park, 72,000 sq ft over 4 floors, 5 minutes walk to Derby rail station and close to other rail occupiers including EMR, Resonate, Porterbrook and SNC Lavalin;
- **Becketwell** – the flagship £200M regeneration scheme in the city centre, first phases (residential, public square and new performance venue) under construction – outline planning consent in place for future phases including grade A offices.

## DELIVERING PUBLIC VALUE

Derby's bid is based on more than property:

- **Talent attraction and retention** – Derby's position at the heart of the rail cluster gives rail professionals an abundance of career opportunities and will ensure that GBR always has access to the best rail skills;
- **Excellent connections to and with the wider rail industry**; both in Derby and with easy access to other UK and international rail centres;
- **Generating additional business opportunities** for our local SME supply chain, creating employment opportunities and contributing to local prosperity;
- **Co-locating decision-makers, industry suppliers and stakeholders** will facilitate innovation and enable the private sector to plan ahead and invest with confidence.

## 7. PUBLIC SUPPORT

There is barely a family in Derby without railway connections through its enduring presence for almost 200 years. The Leader of Derby City Council, Councillor Chris Poulter, is from a multi-generational rail family. Many senior people across Britain's railway started their careers with British Rail and British Rail Engineering and were recruited and trained in Derby.

With over 11,000 highly skilled rail employees based in the Derby area and around 45,000 rail jobs across the East Midlands, the sector is of major significance for our local communities.

Locating GBR's HQ in Derby would bring renewed pride, purpose and confidence to the region and to the rail sector – endorsement of our proud claim to be at the heart of the railway.

That rail is in our DNA was demonstrated in 2014, when Derby celebrated the 175th anniversary of the railway's arrival - a celebration that brought together Government ministers, Whitehall officials, MPs, regional leaders, the rail industry, trades union colleagues and people from across the East Midlands.



*Derby's celebrations of 175 years of railways (2014)*



The private sector sees Derby as the obvious and natural choice for the new GBR HQ. It is no coincidence that Rail Forum Midlands, which represents over 300 businesses in the sector, is based here in Derby.

## *We'll let the rail industry have the last word...*

*"The business and national strategic case for headquartering Great British Railways in the city is very strong indeed and we fully support the campaign. The city has been building trains for Britain and the world since 1839, but the case for Derby rests much more on the future and how the city's rail skills and expertise can flourish with GBR based here. Alstom is the UK's leading train builder and maintainer and is proud to call Derby home."*

Will Tanner, Communications Director, Alstom UK&I





**DESTINATION  
DERBY**

**#DERBYGBR**