

rail ***future***

campaigning for a bigger, better railway

Devon and Cornwall

07.05.2026

Wembworthy Parish Council

What is Railfuture?

- Railfuture is Britain's leading independent organisation campaigning for a bigger better railway.
- The campaign voice for freight and passenger services.
- Supporters of rail investment to bring sustainability and prosperity to industries and communities in Devon and Cornwall.
- Railfuture is not affiliated to or funded by train companies, political parties or trade unions, and is funded solely by members' subscriptions and legacies.
- We observe all government and industry guidance, eg DfT's Transport Appraisal Guidance and Treasury's Green Book, in development of business cases to support our campaign projects.

What is Railfuture supporting?

- The Fighting Fund contributed to Connect Bude's initiative to investigate enhancing the bus service between Bude and Okehampton, as reported on Connect Bude website in April 2024 and March 2025.
- Initiated the Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance.
- Transformational modernisation of the North Devon – Exeter to Barnstaple passenger service. The line that services North Devon, Mid Devon and Exeter. This line is also used by Torridge, West Devon and North Cornwall residents.
- The North Devon line extension to service a new to rail market in the greater Bideford area in the Torridge district.

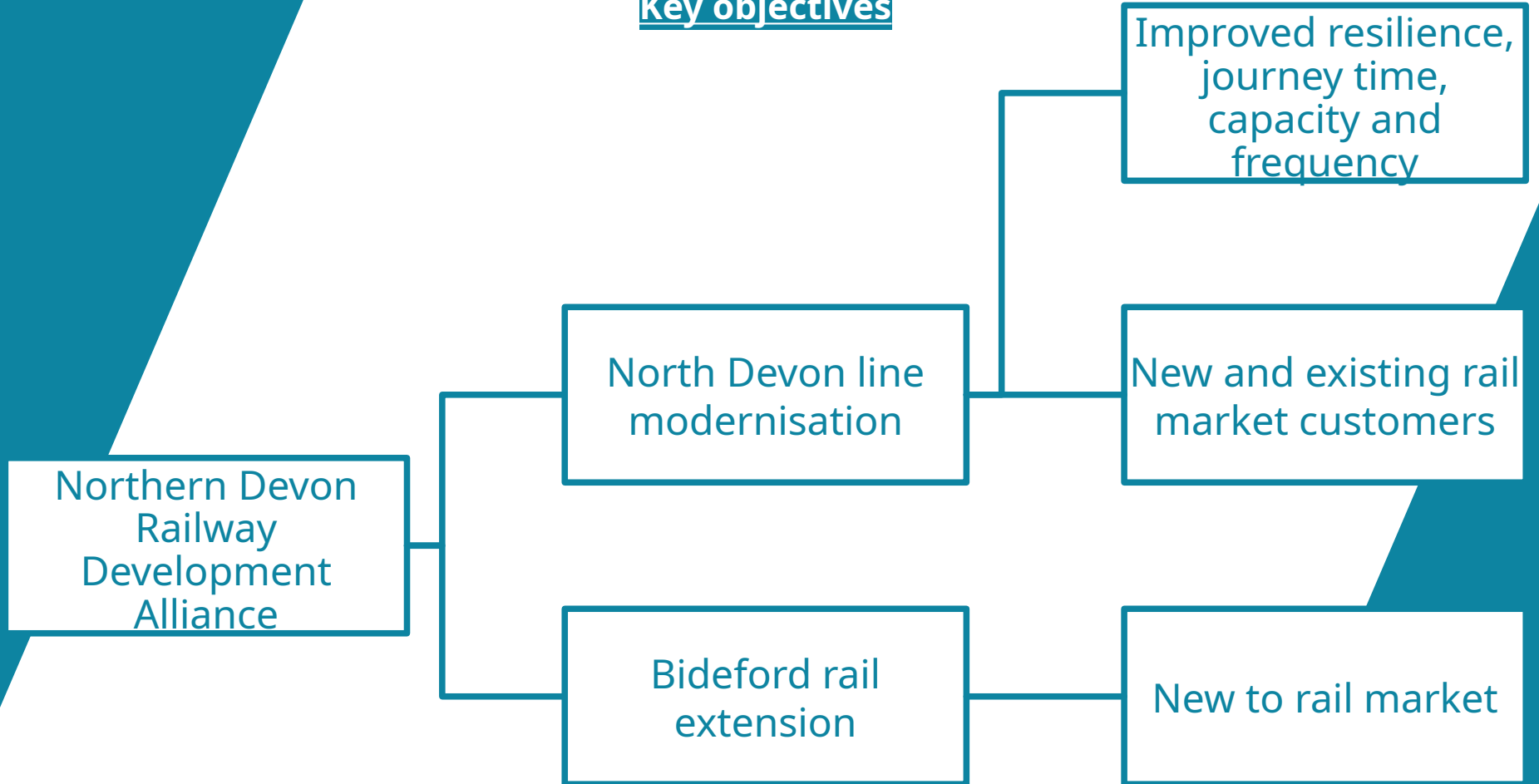
What is Transport Appraisal Guidance?

Department for Transport states:

- **Informed Decision-Making:** TAG helps ensure that transport investments are well-justified, cost-effective, and aligned with strategic objectives.
- **Strategic Alignment:** Guidance helps ensure that transport plans and projects contribute to wider strategic priorities like economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Appraisal processes, guided by the guidance, make the rationale for transport investments transparent and accountable to the public.

The Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance

Key objectives



Formal transport Business Case process



Strategic Implementation Plan 2025-2050

www.peninsulatransport.org.uk



Local Transport Plan 4

2025-2040



Alliance funded studies and workshops



Further formal documents

EXETER TO BARNSTAPLE RAIL ROUTE MODERNISATION

A NEW TRAIN SERVICE CONNECTING BIDEFORD WITH EXETER AND BEYOND

Preliminary Strategic Business Case

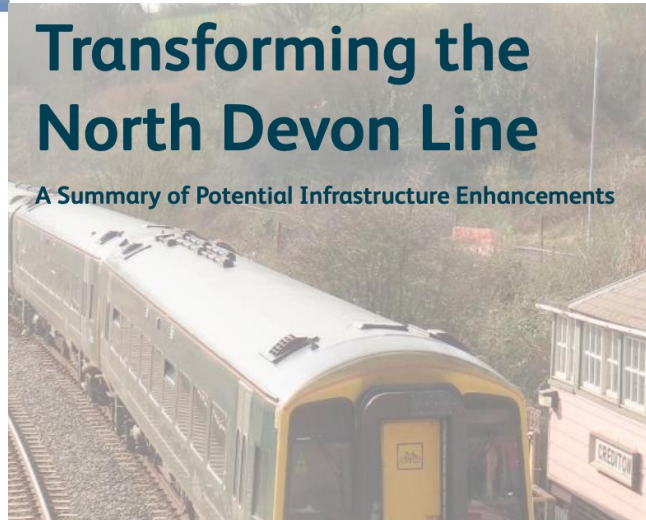


Preliminary Strategic Business Case



Transforming the North Devon Line

A Summary of Potential Infrastructure Enhancements



5 case Business Case

The 5 'Business Case dimensions'

- *Strategic - WHY?*
- *Economic - VALUE FOR MONEY*
- *Financial - FUNDING /AFFORDABILITY*
- *Commercial - PROCURING THE SCHEME*
- *Management - DELIVERY*

Who are the Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance stakeholders?

Railfuture, Navantia UK Appledore shipyard, Petroc college, South West Business Council, District Councils of Torrington, North and Mid-Devon,

Town Councils of Bideford, Barnstaple and Northam, Parish Councils of Bishops Tawton, Burrington, Chawleigh, Chittlehamholt Satterleigh & Warkleigh, Chulmleigh, Kings Nympton, and Lapford, Braunton, Georgeham, Heanton Punchardon and Devon County Council,

Peninsula Transport / Peninsula Rail Task Force, Great Western Railway, Network Rail, Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership, Friends of Barnstaple Railway Station, South West TravelWatch, North Devon Line Rail Promotion Group.



Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance annual meetings



Thank you for listening

Tim Steer

Railfuture

Devon and Cornwall regional branch chair