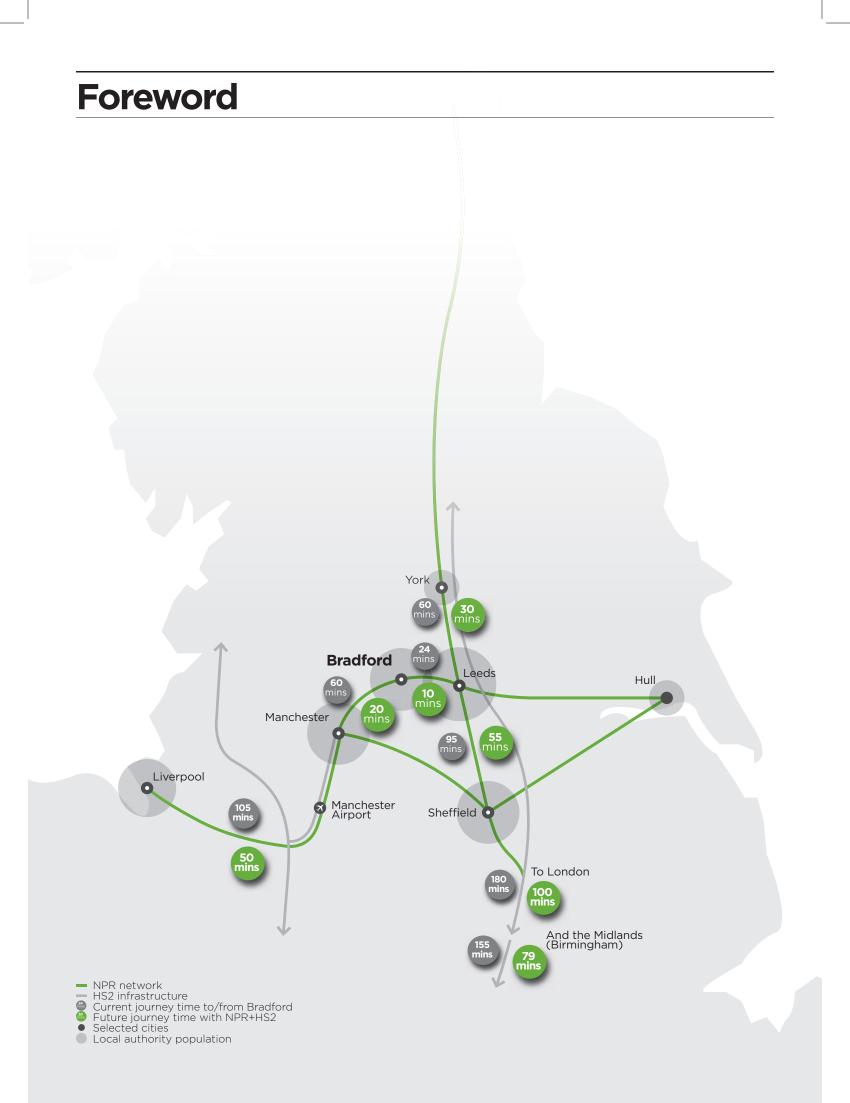


Proposed City Centre Station Summary

September 2021









Bradford is the UK's youngest major city and fifth largest metropolitan local authority by population, bursting with talent and home to highly productive industries, including advanced manufacturing, digital, financial services, and screen industries. Our latest work on station options and the spatial framework for the city centre highlights the opportunities within the Southern Gateway, focused around a new Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) Station to build our strengths in cyber, health tech and innovation sectors.

Bradford has boundless potential but remains the largest city in the UK not on a rail mainline. What Bradford needs now is better connectivity. We need to make smart investments that unlock the city's long-term potential.

A NPR station in Bradford city centre would be transformational for the city, West Yorkshire and the North. It would bring more than 6.7 million people and an area of over £167bn of annual economic output within a 35 minute journey of central Bradford – tripling the population and economy within reach of Bradford currently.

A Bradford city centre NPR station would form part of a wider programme of regeneration that is already underway, supporting Bradford to be the UK's leading city for clean growth and providing a catalyst for new jobs, business space, homes, and public realm.

Based on analysis summarised in this document, our preferred option is a new integrated city centre station on the site of St. James's Wholesale Market. A new NPR and Classic Station (current Calder Valley Services) at this location provides a range of phasing, technical, and regeneration advantages.

The St. James's Market option will:

• be integrated with the bus and mass transit networks to connect the station with the wider city and communities across Bradford and more broadly provide highquality walking and cycling routes in welldesigned public realm;

• support the city to be an exemplar for inclusive, sustainable development and clean, post-Covid growth; and

• support ongoing regeneration of the city centre, as well as unlocking the Southern Gateway as a major area of regeneration potential.

A new station at St James's Market is pragmatic, deliverable and, based on available high-level costing information from Transport for the North (TfN), it provides value for money.

We are committed to working with partners to deliver an integrated programme of investment at pace, in advance of NPR, so the benefits can be realised sooner. The Council are working closely with TfN to assess in further detail the economic benefits and feasibility of a new station at St James's Market.

Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe Leader, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Bradford: Key to a successful Northern Powerhouse Rail Network

Bradford is a growing and evolving city, with an expected increase of 24,000 residents of working age between 2019 and 2024. Through public and private sector investment, the city is attracting new businesses, building knowledge clusters, improving quality of life for residents, and cultivating better prospects for its young population.

Whilst Bradford has the potential to be a beacon for positive change in the North, connectivity is holding the city back. It is the only city in the North of England not served by national north-south main lines or higher speed regional Transpennine rail. Its poor connectivity to places like Manchester and Leeds makes doing business between the cities more challenging, and constrains the labour market reach of the city.

If Bradford is on the NPR network, Bradford and the North can achieve so much more. Bradford, Manchester and Leeds can function like one economy – bringing businesses closer together, opening up more opportunities to a wider catchment of workers and entrepreneurs.

Bradford brings economic strength, a young population, world-class public spaces and cultural attractions, excellent schools and an award-winning university to the Northern Powerhouse. In return, NPR will bring the North's talent and opportunities closer to Bradford. Together, Bradford and NPR will help to create new opportunities and a transformed Northern economy that improves prospects for businesses and communities. This is levelling up in action.

What Bradford brings to NPR

Bradford offers an attractive place for businesses to start up and to grow. Bradford is England's seventh largest city and eighth largest economy with over 530,000 residents and £10bn annual economic output. It is home to well-known business institutions, including WM Morrison Supermarkets, Yorkshire Building Society, Provident Financial, Santander, and Yorkshire Water. Major brands are seeing the city as an emerging opportunity, including PWC and Channel 4. The NEC Group are creating Bradford Live as a major entertainment venue in the home of the former Odeon.

Learning and innovation are embedded in the city's culture. Bradford has the highest proportion of young population (under 20) in the UK, so its education institutions are training tomorrow's workforce – innovators, creators and leaders. The University of Bradford has a triple credited business school, and ranks in the top 10 in the UK for medical technology, optometry & opthalmics, forensic science, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and chemical engineering. It has also been named by the Times and Sunday Times as the UK's top university for social inclusion. The Bradford Opportunity Area



8th largest economy in England, worth £10bn



4th highest number of manufacturing jobs in the UK



Bradford / Leeds is the largest flow between any two cities in the UK (46,000 daily)



World's first UNESCO City of Film



Bradford to bid for 2025 UK City of Culture

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programme is improving educational attainment and skills for residents, helping them adapt to changing skills requirements in the evolving economy.

Bradford offers something unique for residents and visitors, with world-class cultural, heritage and leisure attractions, quality public spaces and a diverse mix of independent businesses. The National Science and Media Museum and the Alhambra Theatre underpin the cultural offer, complemented by the strong cultural heritage of Brontes, JB Priestley and David Hockney.

What NPR will bring to Bradford

NPR can help unlock the growth potential of Bradford. While the city's recent successes have been significant, it does not have the connections to further its economic reach and impact. Located in the city centre, NPR can create land value uplift, accelerate the growth of commercial development and housing in the city, supporting more jobs and business growth.

NPR will support Bradford's committment to achieving Net Zero by 2038, leading clean growth and becoming the country's largest clean growth testbed. This will build on existing programmes seeking to shift away from private car usage through physical changes to the city centre, implementation of a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) and improvements to sustainable transport options. NPR will link Bradford to an integrated highspeed rail network that runs north-to-south and east-to-west across the country. This will make it easier for businesses to trade, people to find the right job and visitors to immerse themselves in Bradford's cultural offer. It will improve the prospects and quality of life for Bradfordians for generations to come.

What Bradford and NPR will achieve together

TfN and Bradford Council have been assessing the land value uplift and economic benefits of NPR to Bradford. The initial findings are that a NPR Bradford city centre station would generate within Bradford District a £2.9 billion annual increase in economic output, a total of 27,000 new jobs, a 10% uplift in residential land values, and a 1.3m increase in accessible jobs within 90 minutes of Bradford.

Together, Bradford will strengthen the economic impact of NPR, and NPR will catalyse growth in Bradford, creating a virtuous cycle. NPR will build on current investment and regeneration in the city centre and bring the two largest economies in the North (Leeds and Manchester) within 10 and 20 minutes journey time of Bradford, respectively. Opportunities across the North will be stronger with Bradford on the line, and NPR will support economic growth that will help level up the economy.



Businesses are growing fast **15,145** in 2013 to **17,620** in 2016



700 businesses, employing 4,500 people within Bradford's digital sector



Youngest city in the UK: 29% of the population are aged under 20



Growing population of 531,000



17,620 businesses employing 198,600 people in Bradford District

Station Options Overview

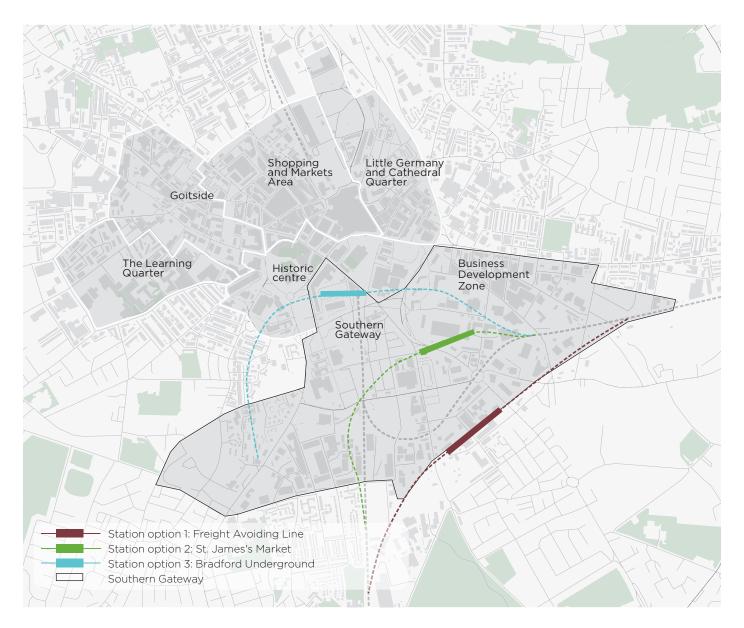
Last year, Arup was commissioned to develop a flexible spatial framework which considered three different NPR station locations in the city within an area of potential change and regeneration called the Southern Gateway (shown below).

The study explored the way that regeneration and future physical growth might be delivered in the context of a city centre NPR station. Concept designs were developed which illustrated how each of the station options might catalyse development and be integrated into the movement and public realm networks of the city.

As part of the process, five strategic key ambitions (the Key Moves) were identified in consultation with the council and major stakeholders, such as Transport for the North (TfN) and West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA). The Key Moves helped to guide the design of the framework and place a focus on objectives such as quality placemaking and positive socio-economic outcomes.

In an initial high-level assessment, which is summarised on pages 7 and 8, the station options were tested against their ability to deliver on these Key Moves. The assessment provided an indication of the key benefits and challenges of each station option, in addition to the level of city-centre integration and regeneration potential that the station locations might ultimately provide.

The locations that were considered are shown on the map below and a short summary of the three station options is provided opposite.



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Station Option 1: Freight Avoiding Line

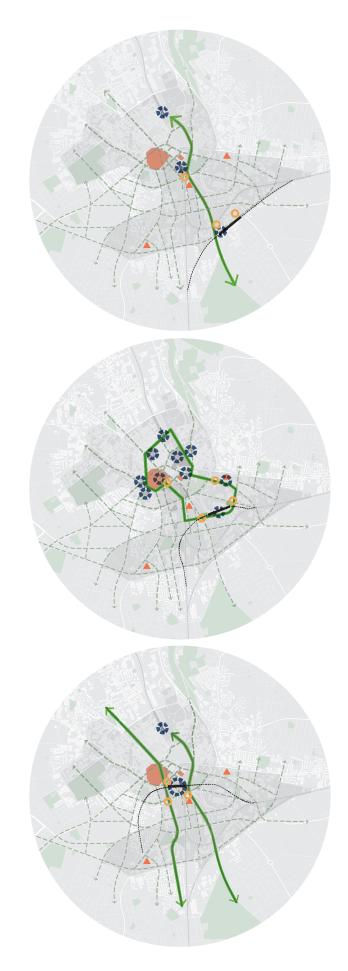
This option proposed a station that would serve NPR services only. Bradford's other two train stations would remain in use, creating three distinct sets of rail services with challenging interchange. Under this option, the station would be located between small to medium sized light industry and low-density residential neighbourhoods and over 1km away from City Park (the centre of the city), limiting the potential of associated development and wider regeneration.

Station Option 2: St. James's Market

This option proposes a new station capable of integrating NPR and Calder Valley services in a combined facility, replacing the current Bradford Interchange Station. The site also has the potential to create a new transport hub in central Bradford for interchange with bus services and the proposed Mass Transit system promoted by the Combined Authority. This multi-modal hub, within close proximity of the city centre (approximately 650m to City Park), would be at the heart of the area, connecting the city centre with the major development and regeneration proposals in the Southern Gateway.

Station Option 3: Bradford Underground

The option at Bradford Interchange would also allow for interchange between NPR and Calder Valley services. Although this option would consolidate services in what is recognised as the "heart" of the city, creating the opportunity for a better gateway into Bradford, this option would require reconfiguration of the existing rail and bus stations. This option is therefore likely to be complex, costly and disruptive. Associated development could also be constrained due to a lack of available land and adjacency to the city centre conservation area.



Station Options Assessment

The assessment suggested that the two most central station options (Option 2: St James's Market and Option 3: Bradford Underground both shared the significant advantage of being able to create a new integrated transport hub with combined services close to the city centre.

Additional advantages were identified in assessing the St. James's Market option. These included phasing and ease of deliverability, value for money and the release of land on the current Bradford Interchange site and its associated rail infrastructure corridor, which would allow for a major regeneration opportunity in the heart of the city.

Key Move Criteria	St. James's Market
Strengthen the city centre & cluster new areas of development around urban anchors	 Central location supports city centre and Southern Gateway regeneration. Significant 360 degree regeneration opportunties around the station.
Create a more liveable, walkable & bikeable city via integrated transport and an improved road network	 City centre proximity provides improved interchange and the opportunity to create a new and efficienct single multi-modal transport hub. Wakefield Rd. may present challenges for direct pedestrian and cycle connectivity to the city centre.
Expand & integrate green and blue infrastructure and the public realm	 Significant opportunity for an expanded public realm network with good integration into the city centre and Southern Gateway. With all Bradford Interchange services shifting to St. James's, the existing rail corridor has potential to become a major linear park.
Deliver a range of high-quality homes to invigorate the city centre and Southern Gateway	• Station location, proximity to the city centre and the area of potential developable land close to the station, is likely to stimulate housing growth.
Integrate technology to future proof the city centre and foster innovation	• A new hub station with close proximity to the city centre can maximise integration with future technology and city-wide transport strategies and systems.

High potential to deliver

Medium potential to deliver

Low potential to deliver

Bradford Underground Freight Avoiding Line Peripheral location supports some Southern Central location supports city centre regeneration and some southerly growth into the Southern Gateway regeneration but is likely to have reduced impact on the city centre. Gateway. Limited land and conservation areas may reduce Development around the NPR station will likely regeneration potential. be more limited with such close proximity to established residential communities. City centre location provides improved interchange, Peripheral location creates significant challenges to but requires complex and costly reconfiguration of interchange between 3 distinct stations. Significant challenges associated with creating an the Bradford Interchange site. The existing station location may be more easily expanded multi-modal movement network - private reinforced with improved pedestrian and cycling vehicle usage may dominate. connectivity. Reconfigured station and bus interchange may Peripheral location of the station and any allow for the development of a new station associated public realm will be difficult to deliver "place" directly linked to City Park and the centre. and integrate with established networks in the city. Land availability is limited. Station location is likely to stimulate housing Peripheral location and the lack of combined growth, though adjacent development transport services make it likely that the station will opportunities are likely more limited. stimulate less housing growth. A reconfigured hub station with close proximity The peripheral location of this NPR only station may to the city centre can maximise integration limit integration with future technology and citywith future technology and city-wide transport wide transport strategies and systems. strategies and systems.

St. James's City Centre Hub

Bradford Council's preferred option is a new integrated city centre transport hub on the site of St. James's Wholesale Market (which would be relocated). This would bring together NPR and existing rail services, replacing Bradford Interchange, connect with bus and mass transit and capitalise on the existing regeneration projects in the area. The St. James's option would have significant advantages and be more affordable and deliverable than the other main city centre option (an underground station at the existing Bradford Interchange).

The proposed new station would have significant advantages, including:

• Unlocking huge development around the station, in the 150 ha Southern Gateway regeneration area and the wider city. This will provide an opportunity for new homes, workspaces, education, healthcare, clean-tech / innovative manufacturing and science and technology.

• Planning bus, mass-transit, and walking and cycling networks in a way that is integrated with the plans for existing rail routes and NPR will improve connectivity to the rest of Bradford and West Yorkshire.

• Based on available high level costing information from Transport for the North (TfN) this option is likely to offer better value for money as it does not require tunnelling to reach the new station.

• Integrating the planning and phasing of strategic rail improvements to Bradford will generate benefits for existing rail services and accelerate delivery of the Bradford to Leeds section of the NPR network. Early construction could also be undertaken without disrupting operations at the existing Interchange Station.

• Releasing the current Bradford Interchange site for regeneration, creating further development opportunities for the city.



360° Regeneration Greater opportunities for regeneration in more areas



Integration Improved integration of movement systems & transport services 0

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This strategy aligns with the approach recommended by the National Infrastructure Commission in their Rail Needs Assessment for the Midlands and the North. It focuses on early delivery of a new through station for Bradford, presents a coherent plan for how NPR is part of improving the whole transport network, and the plans for the station to be the catalyst for wider regeneration.

The scheme will support positive wider outcomes:

• Build on existing programmes and projects, including the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF), which seek to create a shift change away from the private car through physical alternations to the city centre, delivery of a Park and Ride and improvements to sustainable transport options.

• Developing a modern, competitive, international city. When developed alongside station-focused development, improved local transport links and wider investment in economic growth, skills and culture, new national rail links provide a catalyst for the transformation of cities, as has been demonstrated in places like Coventry. • Creating an integrated urban area larger than Birmingham will form a coherent economic area and labour market of over 1.3 million people and over 600,000 jobs.

• A catalyst for large-scale regeneration of the city centre and the Southern Gateway, which is similar in scale and significance to Kings Cross or Stratford and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London.

• Contributing to the net-zero carbon agenda with low-carbon long-distance transport, seamless interchange, increased active travel links and improvements to the wider public transport network.

• Levelling-up: With a GVA per head of £18,600, labour productivity in Bradford is approximately 70% of the national average at £26,000 per head. Average weekly earnings are also lower in Bradford compared to the national average. A step-change in the form of improved transport connectivity could address these imbalances.

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Speed Construction allowing for increased delivery speed of some key services



Wider connectivity Reaching outwards with excellent connections to the city centre and communities across Bradford



Accelerating Delivery & Maximising the Benefits

The new NPR station will be seamlessly integrated with the city's regeneration projects and existing transport network.

With the regeneration of Bradford city centre already underway, integrating the new NPR station with the city's regeneration projects will enable even greater transformation. This includes the 150ha Southern Gateway area to south which will create new homes and businesses and unlock exciting opportunities for education, healthcare, science, innovation and clean growth. Through better integrating the university into the city centre, there is opportunity for an innovation district where businesses, entrepreneurs and academics can come together to collaborate.

Alongside NPR, the station will provide improved local rail services and bus and future mass transit networks. High-quality walking and cycling routes and new public spaces, combined with a remodelled road network, will make it easier for people to make healthier active travel choices in the city centre and surrounding neighbourhoods.

We will take a collaborative, forward-thinking approach to delivering a successful station. We will work closely with our partners to develop the business case for the new station and the proposals for improving the local transport network. We will deliver at pace, securing improvements to the existing rail network whilst future-proofing our investments to enable the full NPR network to be supported over the medium to longer term. We will build on previous work to produce a city centre development framework. This will show how the station can support and be integrated with our wider regeneration plans, reinforcing Bradford's commitment to sustainable development and becoming the country's largest clean growth testbed.

It is an exciting time for Bradford and a once-ina-generation opportunity for transformational change in the city and for the Northern Powerhouse.

Our timeline:

2012-2021 - Setting the stage for success

Investments have already been made and more are underway to transform Bradford city centre including: the award-winning City Park public space; new retail and leisure offers including independent restaurants, bars and cafes; inward investments in financial and professional services firms; the One City park office scheme; and substantial new housing delivery.

We are prepared to deliver NPR in Bradford and have a strategy in place. Published in March 2019, the Bradford NPR Growth Strategy, sets out how we will get our city, economy, businesses,



people, and local transport network ready to maximise the benefits of NPR. The Government and West Yorkshire Combined Authority are committed to delivering a Bradford city centre development framework focused on NPR, and we have our preferred option for a new city centre hub station at St. James's.

The council is actively reviewing alternative sites for the relocation of the St. James's Wholesale Market so it can expand to fulfill its potential as a regional food hub.

2022-2031 – Accelerating regeneration and station delivery

Over the next ten years, Bradford will achieve transformational change with improvements to the existing rail network and NPR investment providing additional confidence that Bradford can unlock its maximum regeneration potential. As the wider transport strategy / policies are developed there will be a need to position NPR within wider interventions across West Yorkshire and the North. Major developments will be delivered, including Bradford Live, grade A offices at One City Park, the new regional food hub and the City Village scheme. Plans will be developed for a new innovation district, regeneration of the Southern Gateway and the city centre. Bradford are bidding to be UK City of Culture 2025, which could supercharge cultural investment.

The NPR station location will be confirmed and the business case and designs for the new station will progress rapidly. Construction will commence with the station initially serving improved existing Calder Valley rail services and buses. Plans will also be finalised, and funding secured, for the new West Yorkshire mass transit network which will serve Bradford.

Beyond 2031 – Transforming Bradford and the Northern Powerhouse

From 2031, the NPR network will connect into the new station and the city centre will be home to a new Bradford NPR station and multi-modal hub. The area will encompass pedestrian and cycle-friendly spaces and new public realm, making it easier for people to get around the city from the station.

NPR will unlock further investment and highquality development, enabling the Southern Gateway to grow into a new major city centre quarter focussed on innovation, manufacturing, clean-tech, education, and health tech.

Bradford's residents and businesses will be connected to new opportunities across the North, and the North will benefit from having the commercial, cultural and social opportunities within Bradford closer than ever before.

Concept illustration of a city centre Station location.



