



Moving Britain Ahead



- In December 2014, we announced a £2bn investment in our major roads to reduce bottlenecks and provide motorway-quality journeys. This includes upgrading all remaining single-carriageway sections of the A303 from the M3 to the M5 via Taunton to create an expressway to the South West, cutting journey times.

- Electrification of the Great Western Main Line from London to Bristol will provide a faster and more frequent service using the new Intercity Express trains.
- Double track has been reinstated between Swindon and Kemble on the route to Newport via Gloucester. This offers a more effective alternative to the main route through the Severn Tunnel and ensures the expected 20 minute journey time reduction between London and Cheltenham can be delivered reliably.
- A new franchise agreement directly awarded to First Great Western will see an additional 3m seats per year, a significant increase in service frequency and reduction in journey times.
- The Cornwall Rail Improvement Package is a significant package of rail-related improvements. This includes modernisation of the Cornish Sleeper trains, the move of Sleeper maintenance from London to a new facility at Penzance Long Rock Depot and the resignalling of the main line from Totnes to Penzance.
- We are providing £2.5m in addition to £300,000 from Cornwall Council to fund flights between Newquay and London Gatwick. It will provide three weekday rotations and two weekend rotations, and it is expected that around 100,000 passengers will use the route every year for work or tourism.
- A bus rapid transport system from the outskirts of Bristol to the city centre and Temple Meads station is under construction. The network will tackle traffic congestion, help create regeneration and support new jobs and homes.
- Spend on cycling is currently over £10 per person in our eight Cycling Ambition Cities, including Bristol. This work includes segregated cycle paths and new links to join up existing networks.
- We agreed a ten-year contract for UK search and rescue (SAR) helicopter services with UK-based Bristow Helicopters Ltd. A base at Newquay will be built for UK SAR, representing a £7.1m investment for the local community. These new state-of-the-art helicopters will reduce the average response time for any incident by 20%.
- We are providing £76.39m for construction of a bypass around the village of Kingskerswell, which is expected to reduce the daily traffic through the village by more than 90% and deliver significant improvements to local air quality.



Department
for Transport