

# KEVIN HOLLINRAKE MP



## HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London SW1A 2HQ

29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

*Dear Philip,*

As northerners and parliamentarians of the Northern Powerhouse APPG, we welcome your commitment in the Spring Statement to Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) and to examining the business case submitted by Transport for the North (TfN). This £39bn business case is bold and ambitious, but also a realistic and evidence-based proposal for a project that would be transformational for the North of England.

As well as faster journey times, enhanced capacity and greater frequency, NPR would provide opportunities for our young people to secure the skilled jobs we need to drive productivity and link up the great cities of the North to stimulate economic growth. It is vital that NPR is delivered to the North alongside HS2, to create a high-speed network for the whole of the country and open up labour markets that are currently not accessible for young people across the North today. With HS2 and NPR it is not a case of either/or – we need both.

The commitment to NPR has to be part of a wider package of infrastructure to deliver a once-in-a-generation opportunity to rebalance the economy and narrow the North-South divide. A total of £120bn is needed by 2050 to include strategic transport schemes as well as local transport investment. This is a significant figure, but it is also achievable; by committing to spend 1.2% of GDP on this transport investment as set out by the National Infrastructure Commission in the National Infrastructure Assessment last year.

This major investment will allow the North's economic corridors to be better connected, attracting investment, creating jobs and encouraging businesses in the UK to set up in the North of England as well as attracting overseas organisations to discover a connected Northern Powerhouse through Manchester Airport, the North's international long-haul hub.

Moreover, it would demonstrate beyond doubt this government's commitment to the Northern Powerhouse, to the economic rebalancing of the UK and to destroying once and for all the North-South divide, which in education, health, transport and productivity is affecting our families, communities and businesses alike.

In advance of the All-Party Parliamentary Group sharing the Northern Powerhouse's detailed Comprehensive Review Submissions, we would like to request a meeting with the cross-party Co-Chairs of the group to discuss business, civic leaders and our priorities as northern parliamentarians.

Yours ever,



Kevin Hollinrake MP



Rt Hon Caroline Flint MP



Julie Elliott MP



John Stevenson MP

**Co-Chairs, Northern Powerhouse All-Party Parliamentary Group**

Alex Sobel MP

Andrea Jenkyns MP

Andrew Percy MP

Angela Smith MP

Anna Turley MP

Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

Bridget Phillipson MP

Catherine McKinnell MP

Chris Green MP

Craig Whittaker MP

Debbie Abrahams MP

Diana Johnson MP

Emma Hardy MP

Emma Lewell Buck MP

Frank Field MP

Gill Furness MP

Graham Jones MP

Grahame Morris MP

Holly Lynch MP

Simon Clarke MP

Stephen Twigg MP

Tony Lloyd MP

Yvonne Fovargue MP

Ian Mearns MP

Imran Hussain MP

James Frith MP

Jeff Smith MP

Jim McMahon MP

Jo Platt MP

John Grogan MP

John Woodcock MP

Jonathan Reynolds MP

Judith Cummins MP

Julian Sturdy MP

Julie Cooper MP

Karl Turner MP

Kate Green MP

Laura Smith MP

Lee Rowley MP

Lisa Nandy MP

Louise Ellman MP

Louise Haigh MP

Sir David Crausby MP

Thelma Walker MP

Tracy Brabin MP

Lucy Powell MP

Mark Menzies MP

Martin Vickers MP

Mary Robinson MP

Mel Onn MP

Mike Amesbury MP

Mike Hill MP

Naz Shah MP

Nic Dakin MP

Nigel Adams MP

Nigel Evans MP

Paul Blomfield MP

Paul Williams MP

Phil Wilson MP

Rachel Reeves MP

Ronnie Campbell MP

Rosie Cooper MP

Rt Hon George Howarth MP

Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP

Sir Mark Hendrick MP

Tim Farron MP

William Wragg MP

Lord O'Neill of Gatley

Rt Hon Baroness Armstrong of Hill Top

Baroness Eaton

Baroness Grey-Thompson DBE DL

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Lord Liddle

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