

## **NEWS RELEASE - IMMEDIATE**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

### **High Speed Railway essential for the North West**

TravelWatch NorthWest (TWNW) publishes today a position paper supporting plans for a High Speed railway connecting London with the North West of England.

Stressing that funding of such a line must not detract from investment in the existing network, TWNW emphasises that the new line should be a part of a strategically planned network of high speed railways linking the nations and regions of the United Kingdom to London and each other. Routes should follow existing major transport corridors such as railways or motorways, rather than introducing a new swathe of development with its attendant noise and disruption into areas of open country.

TWNW urges that decisions are taking as soon as possible in view of the long lead times involved in planning and building the line.

**ENDS**

Notes:

TravelWatch NorthWest is an independent organisation representing users of all forms of public transport in North West England.

A copy of the position paper is attached

Further information – contact John Moorhouse on 07989 515175