

Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority (GMITA) and Greater Manchester Transport Executive (GMPTE) welcomes the draft document which curtails the need to view over 25 documents to understand the process involved in investing in Britain's Railways.

Overall, the document is easily readable and understandable. The series of flow charts provides further clarity to the overall investment process.

Items that could be included to add further clarity to the document are summarised below:

1) *Glossary*- It would be useful to provide a short description for a number of railway industry technical terms included in the document (i.e. renewals etc.). This would allow a wider audience immediate access to this document and not require further research outside of the document.

2) *On-going industry investments*- It would be worthwhile if there was a formal mechanism, linked to the document, whereby Network Rail could give visibility of their renewals programmes and enhancements to PTEs and other potential investors. If this was sufficiently in advance of the work taking place it might enable PTEs and other potential investors to add funding to achieve any enhancement that could benefit passengers and/ or freight at a lower cost than might otherwise be the case.

An example might be where Network Rail were planning to replace track through a station which had a sub-standard stepping distance, additional investment might enable the track to be realigned horizontally and/or vertically to reduce the gap between platform and train thereby improving access.