TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORKS (TEN-T)

Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T) are an EU initiative designed to promote cohesion, interconnection and interoperability of national transport, they comprise roads, railways, airports, ports and inland waterways.

TEN-T policy has been reviewed over the last few years, and new TEN-T Regulations, which define the routes and standards the routes must meet; and a companion Regulation on the “Connecting Europe Facility”, which sets out the financing proposals for the Trans-European Networks, come into force from 2014.

The principal changes in the new TEN-T regime are:

- changing the guidelines into Regulations, that will be directly applicable to public and private sector entities
- the adoption of a dual layer approach for the TEN-T, which involves:
  - a Comprehensive Network incorporating all the road, rail and waterway routes, airports and ports previously designated under TEN-T guidelines;
  - a Core Network’ as a higher level sub-set, which aims to bring together routes, nodes and hubs of strategic importance;
- technical standards and physical infrastructure developments for each transport mode, including binding deadlines for implementation: 2030 for the Core Network and 2050 for the Comprehensive Network.

Under the previous TEN-T arrangements there was only one level of TEN-T and routes were either on the network or not.

Under the new arrangements, there are two levels – the ‘Comprehensive Network and the Core Network. All TEN-T routes are part of the comprehensive network but some are also part of the core network. The core network represents the ‘backbone’ for transportation within the Single Market and will be the strategic priority under the new arrangements. The comprehensive network feeds into the core.

The CEF funding programme is run on a competitive bid basis. Inclusion in the core network enables access to the bulk of the funding from CEF for the period 2014-2020; some funding within CEF will also be available for projects in the comprehensive network.

TEN-T in Wales

The Core Network

The core routes and ports in Wales are:

- Rail :Freight:
  - South Wales Main Line and the Milford Haven Branch Line
Rail: Passenger:
- South Wales Main Line to Cardiff
- Crewe to Holyhead

Road:
- M4: Entire length
- A48(T): Pont Abraham to Carmarthen
- A40(T) and A477(T): Carmarthen to Milford Haven
- A55(T): Ewloe to Holyhead end of A55
- A494(T): Ewloe to Deeside Park
- A550(T): Deeside Park to English Border

Ports:
- Cardiff/Newport (‘cluster’ port)
- Milford Haven

The Comprehensive and Core Routes in Wales are illustrated in the following maps:
## Comprehensive & Core Networks: Inland waterways and ports

![Map of European inland waterways and ports](image)

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<th>Core</th>
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TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK