North Wales Main Line (NWML) – Aspirations & Proposals

A major upgrade of the NWML, and Borderlands line in terms of capacity, line speed, rolling stock and widespread electrification to enable:

- Frequent express services to Cardiff/Bangor/Motley from Gosforth, London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester/Lewis & Manchester Airport

- Our journey time aspirations are:
  - Llanfairpwll - Crewe in 60 minutes
  - Holyhead - Chester in 60 minutes

- New commuter services in North Wales: these will include all stop services in North West Wales between Holyhead and Llanfairpwll/Gwyndwr Line and in North East Wales from Crewe and Wrexham to Llanfairpwll/Gwyndwr Line.

- Electrified Wirral route services on the Birkenhead Wirral line operating at 2tph.

- Key infrastructure constraints addressed at Chester station and doubling the Chester-Wrexham line.

- Birmingham to Holyhead 0.5 tph services would retain existing route via Chester.

- Holyhead to London Euston service currently operated by Avanti West Coast (7tpd to Bangor, 6tpd to Holyhead). Aspiration for regular 1tph frequency to Bangor and 0.5tph to Holyhead and to operate HS2-compatible services on the NWML.

- Potential rerouting of Cardiff to Holyhead 0.5tph services via the Borderlands line and new Shotton curve, not stopping at intermediate stations along the line.

- Llandudno to Blaenau Ffestiniog service currently operated by Transport for Wales (6tpd). Aspiration for 2tph frequency with an extension to Trawsfynydd.

- Trawsfynydd Welsh Highland Railway

- Major upgrade of the NWML and Borderlands line in terms of capacity, line speed, rolling stock and widespread electrification to enable:
  - Frequent express services to Llandudno/Bangor/Holyhead from Cardiff, London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester/Leeds & Manchester Airport.
  - Our journey time ambitions are:
    - Llandudno - Crewe in 60 minutes
    - Holyhead - Chester in 60 minutes
  - New commuter services in North Wales: these will include all stop services in North West Wales between Holyhead and Llanfairpwll/Gwyndwr Line and in North East Wales from Crewe and Wrexham to Llanfairpwll/Gwyndwr Line.
  - Electrified Wirral route services on the Birkenhead Wirral line operating at 2tph.
  - Key infrastructure constraints addressed at Chester station and doubling the Chester-Wrexham line.

- Electrified Wrexham-Liverpool services on the Borderlands line operating at 4tph.

- Key infrastructure constraints addressed at Chester station and doubling the Chester-Wrexham line.

- Major/new station
- Minor/intermediate station
- 1tph service
- 0.5tph service
- < 0.5tph / irregular service

- Existing base & committed
- Short-term aspirations
- Further proposals (subject to more detailed scheme and business case development)

- Timescales:

- Services:

- Stations:

- Onward service

- For illustrative purposes only. Subject to change.

- All future aspirations, proposals, services and stopping patterns are subject to further scheme and business case development.

- Not all North Wales Metro services and proposals, or services by other operators which do not serve the North Wales Main Line are shown.

- Version 2 – 17.07.2020