

5 Next Steps

The Rail Development Plan is currently issued for consultation, with a deadline for feedback of 11th September 2009. Stakeholders are invited to provide comments on the plan, in particular the schemes that have been identified in each route plan.

Ongoing consultation and stakeholder engagement will be required to develop schemes and identify suitable funding opportunities. Of particular importance is inclusion in the High Level Output Specification for Control Period 5 (2014-2019) and the DaSTS process. Gaining inclusion into further Regional Funding Allocation programmes will also be critical for more local schemes.

In order to secure funding further development of schemes included in the Plan will be required. This work will include further assessment of identified problems that the scheme is seeking to address and ensuring that a sound evidence base is presented in support of a scheme. This will also include identification of an acceptable business case, delivery mechanisms and any risks.

Following feedback the Rail Development Plan will be reviewed and finalised by the Regional Rail Forum in partnership with local authorities within the West Midlands region, Centro, West Midlands Regional Assembly, Advantage West Midlands, Network Rail, train operating companies, freight operating companies and the Department for Transport.

Feedback

Your feedback on this draft West Midlands Region Rail Development Plan is an important part of the development process.

If you have any comments please share these with us by emailing:

[**rdpfeedback@centro.org.uk**](mailto:rdpfeedback@centro.org.uk)

or in writing to:

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The deadline for feedback is 11th September 2009.