

INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY COMMISSION REPORT

KEY MESSAGES

FEBRUARY 2017

BASED ON AN INDEPENDENT REPORT COMMISSIONED BY TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH

International connectivity for the North of England

To build a well-connected North we need to do more than just improve travel within the region. We also need to ensure that the North has easy access to the international connections which will allow it to play a full role on the global stage.

The Independent International Connectivity Commission was brought together by TfN Chair and former CBI Director-General, John Cridland, to investigate the ways in which the North’s connections with the world could be bolstered to support transformational economic growth.

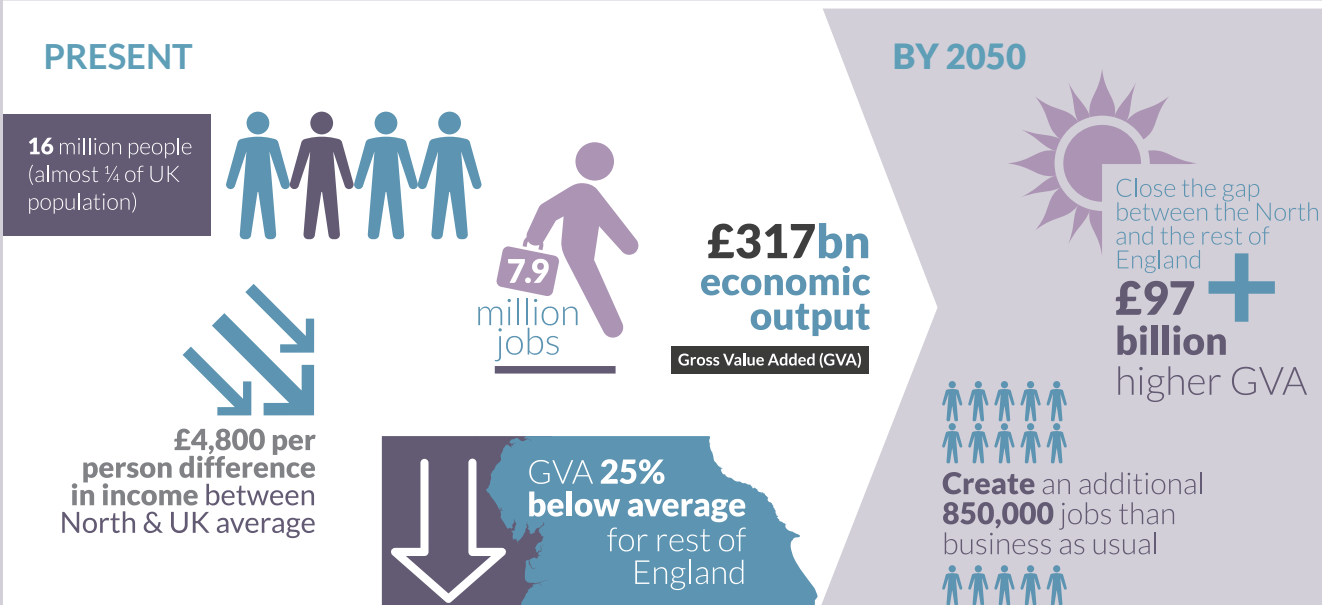
The Commission has found that international connectivity starts on the ground. To ensure that the North has robust and extensive connections to global destinations, the region’s airports and ports must be connected to its economic centres with rapid and reliable rail, road and water links.

Strengthening these ground transport connections will make it easier for passengers and freight to enter and leave the region and will in turn drive demand for services to new international destinations. Improved global connectivity should also be supported by increased market intelligence to inform policy development and investment in marketing of the North as a destination of choice.

Increasing the range of destinations and frequency of direct international services to and from the North will boost business efficiency, encourage entrepreneurship, enhance employment opportunities and increase Foreign Direct Investment, inward investment and export opportunities. It will also create conditions which attract and retain top talent and skills. Improving the North’s international connectivity will help rebalance the wider UK economy, benefiting the country as a whole.

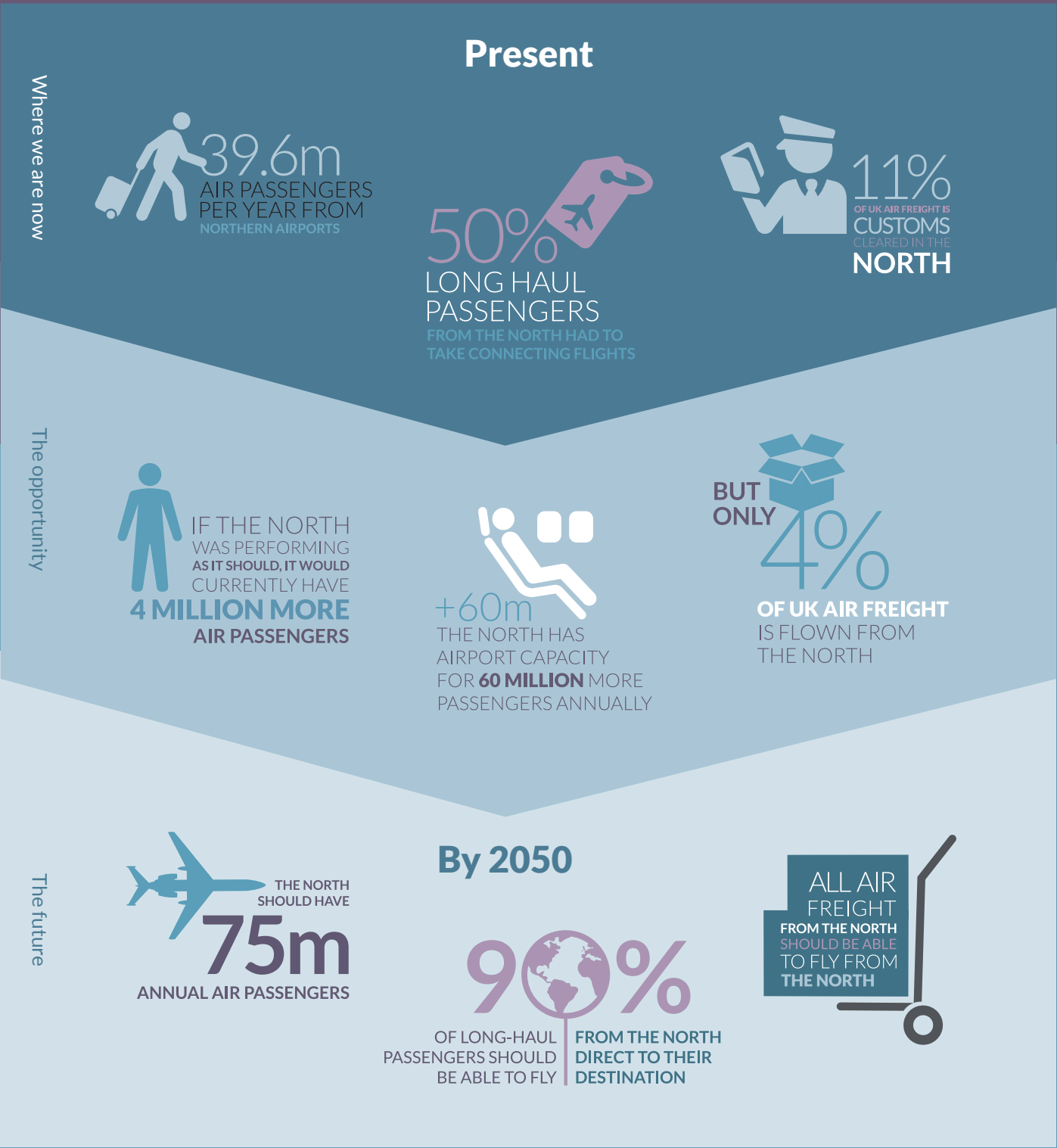
Broad economic picture for the North of England

The Northern Powerhouse Independent Economic Review evidenced that, by building on the region’s unique capabilities, we can close the persistent economic gap between the North and the rest of England. By investing in world-class transport infrastructure we can help transform the Northern economy. Making it easier, faster and more reliable to move people and goods between the major economic centres of the North will increase access to talented staff, suppliers, collaborators and customers, at home and abroad.

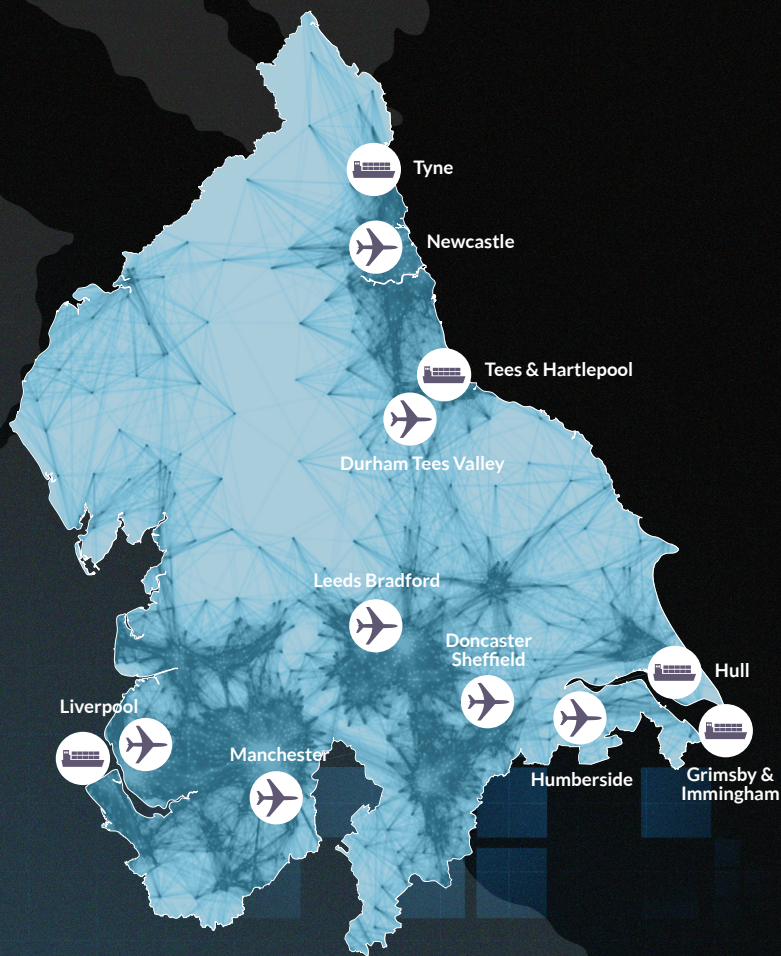


Northern airports

Contribution of the North’s airports



Northern international hubs



Northern ports

Investment in the North's freight and logistics will deliver huge employment benefits and improve Gross Value Added to the UK's economy

£1.5 billion
DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTED
BY NORTHERN PORTS
0.5% OF THE NORTH'S GVA

JUST UNDER
2 MILLION
FERRY
PASSENGERS
USE NORTHERN
PORTS EACH
YEAR

APPROX 33%
OF ALL UK FREIGHT USES
NORTHERN PORTS

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