## Rail stations across Great Britain receive £20 million funding boost for accessibility improvements

- 124 stations across Great Britain to benefit from a share of £20 million for accessibility improvements
- latest in a series of improvements by the Transport Secretary to accelerate the pace of change for a more accessible transport network
- follows launch of new campaign to improve journeys for disabled people when using public transport

Disabled passengers across Great Britain are set to benefit from accessibility improvements at 124 stations thanks to a £20 million government fund.

The enhancements announced by the Transport Secretary Grant Shapps today (26 February 2020) are funded through the <u>Access for All programme</u> and will include new lifts, accessible toilets and customer information screens.

It comes as a new government campaign launched this week to improve the journeys of disabled passengers on public transport.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said:

The ability to travel easily from A to B is an essential factor for our day to day lives – but is not the reality for everyone.

I recognise that we have much more to do, which is why we're making 124 train stations across the country more accessible – a key part of levelling-up access for disabled people to transport and opening up opportunities for all.

This is just the start of a much more ambitious agenda. My goal is to go much further in the years ahead to help ensure that our country's transport system becomes one of the most accessible in the world.

These improvements are being made through the Access for All programme which, since 2006, has already made more than 200 stations step free, as well as delivered smaller scale accessibility improvements at more than 1,500 others to improve passenger experience.

Today's £20 million is part of a £300 million package announced last year which is already providing accessible, step free routes at 73 stations across Great Britain, making it easier for disabled people to travel on the UK's rail network.

Minister for Disabled People Justin Tomlinson said:

Everyone using our rail network deserves platforms and toilets they can use and this £20 million investment to improve 124 railway stations across the country will make a huge difference to disabled people.

This government is committed to levelling up the playing field and later this year we'll launch a national strategy which will ensure disabled people have equal access to all spheres of life.

This follows the launch of the <u>it's everyone's journey</u> advertising campaign to highlight how we can all play a part in making public transport inclusive. The campaign is being supported by more than 100 partners, including First Group, WHSmith Travel and the Alzheimer's Society.

Department for Transport research has shown that behaviours that make public transport a daunting place for disabled people are often unconscious, such as not looking out for a fellow passenger who might need a seat or be in distress.

'it's everyone's journey' will raise awareness about the needs of disabled people when using public transport, particularly people with non-visible impairments, and will also prompt members of the public to think and consider how their behaviour might impact others.

Alongside this, the department has also launched its <u>Inclusive Transport</u> <u>Leaders scheme</u>, an accreditation scheme which will encourage, celebrate and promote best practice in inclusive transport.

Operators, such as bus and train companies, are encouraged to <u>sign up to the</u> <u>Inclusive Transport Leaders Scheme</u>, where they will work towards one of three accreditation levels by demonstrating the steps they have taken to improve the travelling experiences of disabled passengers, older people, and those with reduced mobility.

These improvements form part of the wider <u>Inclusive Transport Strategy</u> and supports the government's ambition of achieving equal access for all on public transport.

The stations to benefit from the funding are:

Station	Region
Bury St Edmunds	East
Colchester North	East
Needham Market	East
Narborough	East Midlands
Barking	London
Chessington South	London

Station	Region
Ealing Broadway	London
Hackney Downs	London
Kew Bridge	London
Surbiton	London
West Croydon	London
Billingham	North East
Accrington	North West
Ainsdale	North West
Aintree	North West
Altrincham Interchange	North West
Aughton Park	North West
Bache	North West
Bank Hall	North West
Bebington	North West
Belle Vue	North West
Bidston	North West
Birkdale	North West
Birkenhead central	North West
Birkenhead North	North West
Birkenhead Park	North West
Blundellsands & Crosby	North West
Bolton	North West
Bootle New Strand	North West
Bramhall	North West
Bredbury	North West
Broad Green	North West
Bromborough Rake	North West
Bromley Cross	North West
Brunswick	North West
Chassen Road	North West
Davenport	North West
Ellesmere Port	North West
Fairfield	North West
Farnworth	North West
Fazakerley	North West
Formby	North West
Hall Road	North West
Hamilton Square	North West
Heald Green	North West
Heaton Chapel	North West
Hightown	North West
Hillside	North West
Hooton	North West

Station		Region
Hoylake	North	-
Humphrey Park	North	West
Hunts Cross	North	West
James Street	North	West
Kearsley	North	West
Kirkby	North	West
Kirkdale	North	West
Leasowe	North	West
Liverpool Central (Northern Line)	North	West
Liverpool South Parkway	North	West
Lostock	North	West
Maghull	North	West
Middlewood	North	West
Moorfields	North	West
Moorside	North	West
Moses Gate	North	West
New Brighton	North	West
Old Roan	North	West
Ormskirk	North	West
Orrell Park	North	West
Overpool	North	West
Prescot	North	West
Rice Lane	North	West
Rock Ferry	North	West
Romiley	North	West
Rose Hill	North	West
Ryder Brow	North	West
Sandhills	North	West
Seaforth and Litherland	North	West
Southport	North	West
Town Green	North	West
Trafford Park	North	West
Wallasey Grove Road	North	West
Wallasey Village	North	West
Walton	North	West
Waterloo	North	West
West Kirby	North	West
Westhoughton	North	West
Anderston	Scotla	and
Deal	South	East
High Brooms	South	East
Totton	South	East
Wivelsfield	South	East

Station	Region
Dorchester South	South West
Freshford	South West
Lawrence Hill	South West
Lostwithiel	South West
Nailsea & Backwell	South West
Parson Street	South West
Patchway	South West
Severn Beach	South West
Stapleton Road	South West
Yate	South West
Grangetown	Wales
Llantwit Major	Wales
Neath	Wales
Pontypool & New Inn	Wales
Lichfield Trent Valley	West Midlands
Wolverhampton	West Midlands
Barnetby	Yorkshire and the Humber
Darnall	Yorkshire and the Humber
Darton	Yorkshire and the Humber
Dodworth	Yorkshire and the Humber
Elsecar	Yorkshire and the Humber
Horton in Ribblesdale	Yorkshire and the Humber
Hull Paragon	Yorkshire and the Humber
Kiveton Bridge	Yorkshire and the Humber
Kiveton Park	Yorkshire and the Humber
Malton	Yorkshire and the Humber
Penistone	Yorkshire and the Humber
Pontefract Monkhill	Yorkshire and the Humber
Silkstone Common	Yorkshire and the Humber
Thirsk	Yorkshire and the Humber
Thorne South	Yorkshire and the Humber
Woodhouse	Yorkshire and the Humber