

The Government's announcement on transport is undermined by their record of delayed, downgraded and cancelled investment – McDonald

Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, responding to the Government's announcement about investment in road and rail in the North of England and the Midlands, said:

"The Tories have undermined their own boasts of investment in transport infrastructure across the UK by huge disparities in spending by region and a record of delayed, downgraded and cancelled investment.

"By scrapping electrification this summer, the Transport Secretary has condemned much of the country to second-class transport networks, denying passengers in the Midlands, Wales and the North the modern, electric services they were promised and derailing plans for a Crossrail for the North. The Tories seem to think that slow, polluting and unreliable bi-mode trains are good enough for some parts of the country.

"Labour is committed to ensuring each area gets its fair share of investment, including upgrading the rail network across the country and at least a £10 billion commitment to Crossrail for the North. This would reverse decades of underinvestment that has undermined the economic potential of the North of England and would help to deliver 850,000 new jobs by 2050."