**Public Consultation**

**All Island Strategic Rail Review**

Nichola Mallon, MLA, Minister for Infrastructure and Eamon Ryan, T.D., Minister for Transport have jointly published a Consultation Paper on the All Island Strategic Rail Review and are now seeking feedback from the public and interested stakeholders.

***What is the Strategic Rail Review?***

The Strategic Rail Review will review the rail network on the island of Ireland with regard to the following ambitions: improving sustainable connectivity between the major cities (including the potential for high-/higher speed), enhancing regional accessibility, supporting balanced regional development and considering rail connectivity to international gateways - sea and air ports, which will include examining the role of rail freight.

***Why are we launching a consultation?***

A key element of the review will be gaining insights from interested stakeholders and the wider public.

Your views are important to us as we look to develop our rail network.

Submissions are invited from interested parties on the future potential of rail on the island of Ireland, the policy opportunities and where improvements can be made, recognising the important role that rail can play in quality of life, economic activity, and supporting the transition to a low carbon society.

***How to get involved***

For more information on how to participate, and to read the policy objectives which frame the review, please visit <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/consultations>. Please note that physical copies of the consultation material can also be made available, on request, via email (strategicrailreview@arup.com) or by post to (Strategic Rail Review, c/o Arup, Bedford House, 16-22 Bedford St, Belfast BT2 7FD).

Unless specifically requested, all submissions received as part of the public consultation will subsequently be published on the Department of Transport’s website, with a summary document published on the Department of Infrastructure’s website.

The deadline for receipt of submissions as part of this public consultation is **17:00 on 21 January 2022**.