

# SENUG

The South East Northumberland Rail User Group

## Railfuture AGM

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024



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# SENRUG

## The South East Northumberland Rail User Group

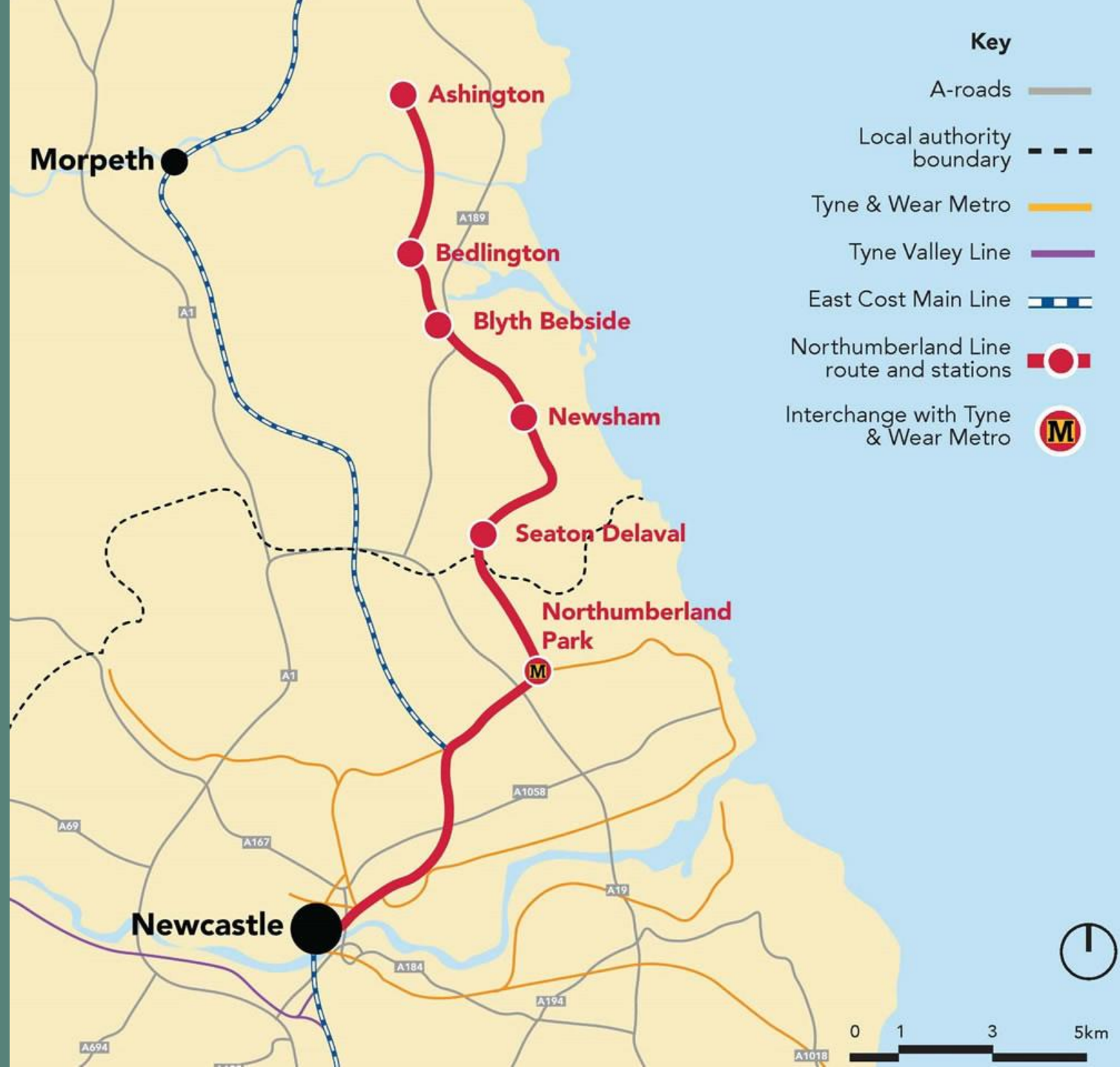
### The Northumberland Line

- SENRUG has led the re-opening campaign since December 2005
- The campaign has been supported by Lib-dem, Labour and Conservative administrations at Northumberland County Council
- After 19 years of campaigning, the scheme is now being delivered, expected opening (part) - **summer 2024 ????**
- SENRUG will continue to campaign for further extensions and stations once the core scheme is delivered



Photo: Destination Blind.  
John Brierley





# The Northumberland Line

## Did We Get Everything We Want?

*No!*

- No Woodhorn / Newbiggin.
- No Station at Seghill.
- Bizarre station locations / designs at:
  - Seaton Delaval
  - Bebside
  - Ashington
- No passive provision for:
  - Double tracking
  - Bi-directional signalling at Bedlington



Photo: Seghill Crossing.  
David Jensen

# SENUG

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What We Wanted  
Map credit: SENRUG



What We're Getting  
Map credit: NCC



# The Northumberland Line

## Northumberland Line Extensions

- Morpeth-Choppington-Bedlington
  - Via existing freight tracks
- Ashington-Woodhorn-Newbiggin
  - Needs ½ mile new track on existing track bed
- Additional Station at Seghill
  - Always part of SENRUG's original campaign
- Ashington – Butterwell
  - Needs new North to East junction at Butterwell
  - Provides diversionary freight route
  - Option for passenger trains Ashington to Alnmouth
- Ashington – Cambois – North Blyth
  - Suitable for Very Light Rail / battery power + rapid charge
  - Use bay platform at Ashington once NL extended to Ashington



Photo: Choppington Crossing.  
Northumbria Rail Ltd



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## The South East Northumberland Rail User Group

### Blyth Town Centre – Airport

- Blyth Town Centre to Newsham North Jct
  - Trains run under battery or DC electrics
  - Possible rapid charge facility at Blyth TC stn
- Newsham North to Northumberland Park
  - Trains run under battery power (5.9 miles)
  - New station at Seghill
- Northumberland Park to Airport
  - Trains run on DC electric (Metro standard)
  - New interconnection station at Benton East for ECML
  - Faster access to airport from north Northumberland
  - No physical rail connection with ECML
- Campaign Leaflet now available



Photo: Newcastle Airport.  
Geoff Stainthorpe



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### Newcastle – Morpeth – Berwick Local Service

- Hourly local service between Newcastle and Berwick, calling at all stations
- New stations at Belford and Beal
- Feasibility Study completed: proposal is technically possible and commercially viable
- Electric trains needed with higher speeds and faster acceleration
- Helps revitalise Northumberland's northern communities and support tourism and leisure
- The most beautiful railway line in the country – amazing coastal views – but currently no local trains running on it



Photo: Northern train at Alnmouth.  
Steve Miller





**SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND RAIL USER GROUP**



**Key: (not all stations shown)**

- **New Route:**  
Newcastle - Morpeth - Berwick
- **Northern:**  
Hexham - Newcastle - Morpeth - Bedlington
- **Northumberland Line:**  
Newcastle - Ashington - Alnmouth/Newbiggin
- **Metro:**  
Sunderland - Airport and South Shields - Coast - St James
- **New Route:**  
Blyth Town Centre - Airport
- **New Route:**  
Ashington - North Blyth

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## Questions / Comments?

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