

**Statement from Mark Hopwood CBE, Managing Director GWR for the
3rd annual Convention of the Northern Devon
Railway Development Alliance, Friday 6th March 2026**

“We recognise the strength of feeling locally about the need for greater resilience, improved frequency and reduced journey times. We are continuing to work closely with Network Rail and partners to help build a more robust and reliable railway for the future. Investment and long-term funding are key to delivering this, and we always welcome constructive third-party advocacy that supports the case for further improvements.”



MD meets MP – credit: David Whiteway, GWR