

**Graham Botham****Strategy and planning director for the North, Network Rail**

As Network Rail's strategy and planning director, Graham leads Network Rail's long term planning of the national network in the North of England in partnership with Transport for the North.

Passionate about how transport and rail in particular can facilitate economic growth, Graham led the development of and secured the funding for the Northern Hub package of rail improvements across the North of England.

Graham joined the rail industry in 1987 undertaking a range of roles delivering passenger and freight services on a daily basis for more than 20 years and developing enhancements to support and improve the Strategic Freight Network.

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