







FASTER RAIL PROSPECTUS – PROPOSAL FACT SHEET

NSW GOVERNMENT – SYDNEY TO NEWCASTLE

The NSW Government will explore improvements to the rail connections between Sydney and Newcastle that would facilitate faster passenger rail services.

The Sydney to Newcastle business case will investigate works including reducing track curvature, deviations and realignments, removal of level crossings, junction rearrangement and better segregation of passenger and freight services. The NSW Government has indicated that travel times between Sydney and Newcastle could be reduced from approximately 3 hours to 2 hours.

Benefits

-  Improve travel time reliability (from 3 hours to 2 hours) and increase capacity.
-  Increase comfort and amenity at stations and on trains.
-  Maximise safety for the travelling public on all modes.
-  Minimise the impact of transport on the environment.
-  Improve connectivity to the surrounding region through integrating public transport services with the improved rail services.
-  Unlock housing supply and job growth between Sydney and Newcastle.

Estimated business case cost

The Australian Government has committed \$20 million in funding to develop faster rail business cases. The NSW Government proposal is one of three successful proposals that will receive a funding contribution from the Australian Government.

The Australian Government funding contribution to the NSW Government proposal is up to \$5,250,000. However, it should be noted that financial support for the development of a business case does not indicate Australian Government support for delivery of a project.

Timeframes

Business cases are expected to be delivered to the Australian Government by mid-2019. The business case will need to demonstrate faster rail travel times through new or upgrades to the existing rail infrastructure.

Completed business cases will be considered in the context of the Government's wider infrastructure priorities and future Budgets and any future funding commitments will take into account state and private sector financial support.