



Spatial Economics Research Centre

Monday, 4 October 2010

Even more high speed 2

Philip Hammond, the Transport Secretary, has [backed plans for high speed routes to Leeds and Manchester](#).

A year ago I wrote of the former government's HS2 plans: "the wider benefits - e.g. 'regenerating the north' - are even more uncertain. I suspect the one thing we can say with any certainty is that they are likely to be overstated." So I was delighted to see Mr Hammond upholding that tradition with his assertion that: "This great connectivity is fantastic news for the North East and other regions and will transform the economy, I have no doubt about that at all."

In short: The case for spending £33bn on high speed rail is greatly exaggerated; the case is even less convincing in light of government spending cuts yet all the main political parties are for it. Go figure ...

Posted by [Prof Henry G. Overman](#) on [Monday, October 04, 2010](#)

Recommend this on Google

No comments:

[Post a Comment](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)

Simple theme. Powered by [Blogger](#).