Leeds-Settle-Carlisle Line Strategy.

1. Executive Summary.

The railway line from Leeds to Carlisle via Settle (the Line) connects two major population centres and provides an alternative to the East and West Coast routes from England to Scotland. It was built as a main line railway connecting London St Pancras and Scotland, and is still used for journeys between Scotland and England. It is a scenic tourist route, considered to be one of the world's greatest railway journeys. It provides local services to connect communities with little or no other public transport. It provides commuter access to Carlisle and Leeds. It carries freight and has the potential to accommodate diverted trains when the West Coast line is closed.

This Strategy has been produced by the Settle Carlisle Line Association (SCLA), working with Northern and Network Rail. It argues that:

- The Line should be recognized as an alternative to the East and West Coast routes linking England and Scotland.
- It should improve connectivity between two major population centres: the HS2 hub at Leeds, and the border city of Carlisle
- Longer distance passenger flows beyond both Carlisle and Leeds should be encouraged
- Journey times should be improved by incremental improvement of the infrastructure, and increased line speed.
- Passenger services should be improved including upgraded trains.
- The opportunity for increased tourism should be explored.
- There should be greater ownership of the Line and its stations by local communities.
- Freight traffic should be encouraged.

An Action Plan to deliver the Strategy is included in Appendix 5, page 13.

Our Mission is:

"To grow economic activity and services along the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle Line thus building a sustainable future for the railway and the region."

We will do this by identifying projects to enhance customer experience and improve passenger usage, working collaboratively with our stakeholders

2. Background.

The Line was built in the 1870s by the Midland Railway as a third main route from London (St Pancras) to Scotland. Unusually, it had many local stations, some just a few miles apart. It survived the Beeching era cuts (although all but two stations closed) but was threatened with closure in the 1980s during which time its condition deteriorated. A successful campaign was fought to save the Line

culminating in a decision in 1989 to keep the Line open. Since then the entire track has been replaced and Network Rail (and its predecessors) have made substantial improvements to the infrastructure.

Out of this adversity grew what is today the SCLA representing Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line (with over 3000 members), The Settle-Carlisle Railway Development Company (which has a contract with Northern to provide a range of services), The Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust (a charity with heritage, community and educational objects) and the S-C Railway Property Company (which manages and maintains three of the station properties on the line and operates holiday lettings). The SCLA works in partnership with Network Rail, Northern and other stakeholders.

Arriva took over the Northern franchise in April 2016 and has promised to deliver one of the largest investments in the railway in a generation.

3. Demographics of the Line.

The Line runs through the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the market towns of Skipton, Settle and Appleby. Carlisle is a major regional centre and tourist destination. Appleby has been badly affected in recent years due to the floods and landslip and many local businesses have struggled. This is of particular significance as the Line acts as a corridor for small business development as well as local and tourist travel..

The area surrounding many of the stations is rural and many of the stations lie at the edge of the communities they serve. When considering station improvements it is important to consider the range of actual and potential users, especially tourists.

4. Train services.

Objective: A service that meets current and future customer needs and supports the local economy. This means a sufficient number of trains per day at convenient times.

The Line serves four passenger types: commuters into Leeds, Carlisle and the market towns; local travellers; passengers starting journeys south of Leeds or north of Carlisle and tourists. There is a frequent service from Skipton to Leeds (4 trains an hour, frequent overcrowding) and footfall has grown from 2m to almost 6m between 1997 and 2016. Data on commuter traffic into Carlisle is not available, but there is only one possible train that could be used by commuters. Tourists from all over the world travel along the line to experience 'one of the world's greatest railway journeys'.

Unlike many other routes in Northern England, footfall at intermediate stations between Carlisle and Settle has increased only marginally from 300,000 in 1997 to 350,000 in 2014 (prior to the landslip in early 2016 which closed the line north of

Appleby). This suggests substantial latent untapped demand. See Appendix 1 for details.

There is no data on through travel (journeys originating North of Carlisle or South of Leeds). There is strong evidence to suggest that passengers use the line to make Anglo-Scottish and other long distance through journeys, sometimes when time is not critical, or because fares are cheaper.

Action 1: Collect and analyze data on through services and identify opportunities for improvement (timing, ticketing, connections, marketing, extra services, journey times). Northern to consider a desktop exercise to scope out this project. This may lead to a market research exercise supported by the use of on-train volunteers.

Action 2: Explore opportunities to work with other train operating companies.

There are currently 8 Leeds departures Monday to Saturday, with 4 on Sunday. There are 7 Carlisle departures, with 4 on Sunday. The Northern franchise agreement requires 2 additional Sunday services in each direction from Dec 2017 and an additional weekdays departure from Leeds in the late afternoon (these have been delayed until May 2018). See Appendix 2 for the current timetable.

The National Customer Survey states consistently that lack of connectivity is a major concern for passengers. The May 2018 timetable is currently out for consultation so there is an opportunity to make some improvements. The following points should be considered:

- Increased frequency of Monday to Saturday services, especially filling the afternoon gap (no service between 15.00 and 18.00).
- Regular ('clock face') departures from Leeds and Carlisle.
- An acceptable mix of stopping and limited stop trains between Settle and Carlisle.
- Better connections at Leeds and Carlisle to make through journeys easier.
- Where feasible, connections at Hellifield for Lancaster and the West Coast line.
- Connections to Manchester and Manchester Airport.

Action 3: DevCo to lead a discussion and respond to the Northern consultation by the first week in July

It is believed that an important constraint to increased passenger journeys, particularly through journeys, is long journey times (Carlisle to Leeds is typically around 2hr 45min, an average journey speed of little over 40mph. (The Line is currently restricted to a maximum line speed of 60mph, although sections are capable of 90mph running.)

Network Rail has carried out many projects on the Line in recent years, often responding to problems such as land slips (Eden Brows land slip in 2016 led to a

£23m investment). This has resulted in most of the Line's infrastructure being capable of handling higher speed/loading combinations.

Action 4: Set up a Passenger train services group to explore the opportunity to reduce journey times, look at further through journey opportunities and hence drive passenger journeys. This group would work with Northern, Network Rail and other interested parties including Rail North to review opportunities. Note: see background discussion paper.

5 Stations and Facilities.

Objective: To modernise stations to meet the needs of customers and enable stations to become community hubs.

There are 11 stations between Settle and Carlisle (inclusive), with only Appleby, Settle and Carlisle permanently staffed by Northern and DevCo employees. Other stations are unstaffed, however around 300 volunteers run shops, a tea room and provide support at every station. The majority of the stations along the route fit in with the heritage theme, which has become heavily associated with the line. The stations and other features are probably the best-preserved example on a mainline railway in the UK. The aspiration is to keep existing railway buildings in use and provide a consistent heritage theme, which adds to the tourist interest.

Many of the stations are lacking modern infrastructure that enhance the customer experience, which may discourage an increase in footfall. However there are plans in place to improve stations. There is an aspiration to make stations community hubs, serving more of a purpose than solely travel.

A Stations Strategy has been produced (Appendix 3) which included the following improvements:

- Real time train service information and Help Points
- Clear intuitive station signage and travel/local tourism information
- Professional and "uncluttered" station appearance
- Waiting rooms with heating and lighting on all platforms
- Public address systems
- Cycle storage facilities
- Wi-Fi and improved mobile phone connectivity
- Clear way marking to and from key communities/tourist attractions
- Improved accessibility for all passengers

Northern have issued a Station Improvement Plan which sets out projects planned up to 2019 (see Appendix 4).

Action 5: As recommended in the Stations Strategy set up a Stations Improvement Group to identify projects which are not covered by Northern's Station Improvement Fund programme and create a case for further improvements, especially improved passenger facilities, accessibility and customer information. SCLA member organisations to consider projects they can fund/manage. DevCo/Property Co to lead.

Action 6: Conduct customer and stakeholder surveys to identify priorities. Action 7: Scope a Community Hub pilot project.

6 Trains

Objective: To have modern trains which meet customers' expectations and are fit for purpose. This includes cleanliness, on board facilities and capacity.

The Line is one of the most picturesque in the UK and so trains with large windows and which are of a more comfortable nature should be used. The Line is currently served on the regular service trains by predominantly Class 158 diesel multiple units.. Refurbished trains 'cascaded' from other routes may(?)l replace these trains. However, timing is uncertain due to delays in electrification of other lines that would release diesel trains. The current plan is that from May 2018 158 units will continue to be the main traction, strengthened by some 153 units. It is expected that this will continue until more 153 units become available during 2019. There may be the possibility of 156 units being deployed as well.

There are however steps that can be taken to improve the experience of customers on the existing trains. Due to the trains being old they look tired and sometimes dirty. Deep cleaning more regularly would improve customer experience, this is particularly important as the journey is considerably longer than many Northern services. Other improvements include trains with a greater capacity and better customer facilities e.g. Wi-Fi, electronic charging points, disabled access toilets and better seating. The refurbished trains will have all of these additional features.

Action 8: Northern to consider how to improve train cleanliness, attractiveness and facilities prior to new trains becoming available.

Steam-hauled special trains are a regular feature of the Line. However, many do not stop between Settle and Carlisle, expect for a stop at Appleby to take on water. This reduces the generative economic benefit to the route and associated communities/businesses.

Action 9: Explore the opportunity to run special trains (not necessarily steam) to provide additional interest and extra services, possibly over the summer months. The scope would include origin and destination and ticket pricing. This may be through an independent operator.

7 Freight traffic.

Objective: Encourage freight traffic.

In the late 1990s, freight traffic returned to the Settle and Carlisle line. Coal flows between the Ayrshire coalfields to English Power Stations increased significantly. Latterly, imported coal into Hunterston was also conveyed over the line. Two years ago, the coal market declined following the closure, or burning hours limited on a number of Power Stations. Coal traffic isn't expected to return to the levels it was at several years ago, and the likelihood is that this will cease altogether

over time.

Aggregate traffic is expected to see growth in future years. The Peak District sees high volumes of aggregates coming out by rail from the quarries and this is starting to happen in the Yorkshire dales. Tarmac has opened a new railhead at Arcow (near Horton), which sees trains run daily to sites in Manchester and Leeds. In addition to this, the quarry at Ribblehead, which has seen very little traffic since the 1980s, has started to serve trains to Leeds (Hunslet), with stone being delivered by road from nearby quarries.

The line is still an important route for through traffic, with Cement flows between Scotland and Clitheroe, timber trains between Carlisle and Shropshire as well as engineering trains forming a vital link between Network Rail's distribution centres using the line on a regular basis. Imported gypsum from Spain is transported daily to Kirkby Thore for British Gypsum and travels from Hull Docks via West Yorkshire.

The line continues to serve an important link between Scotland / Cumbria and the rest of England. Areas of growth are in the aggregates market and Intermodal traffic; however, the Settle & Carlisle line is gauge sensitive for the latter which limits the scope.

The arrival of HS2 and train service patterns may increase the number of trains using the line, with connections on and off the West Coast Main Line, the Settle and Carlisle could play a pivotal role in through traffic as well as serving construction and aggregate markets.

8 Additional opportunities for Growth

Objective: To identify areas of growth for the line and use examples from other lines to adopt best practices.

The Line has many examples of projects, which have led to increased patronage on the line, for example guided tours, ticket promotions and special trains. Some examples are detailed below.

Case studies

Marketing & Publicity

The DevCo leads on marketing and promotion of the line. The website www.settle-carlisle.co.uk (completely overhauled in 2015) is a comprehensive source of information for visitors to and local users. Usage currently stands at over 20,000 per month. The most popular pages are train times and the Dales Railcard. Details of local events, places to visit and stay, things to do, downloadable walks, an image gallery and historical information are also available on the site. Social media, Facebook and Twitter (@setcarrailway), is used to promote events, run competitions and give useful travel information. There are over 14,500 Facebook followers and

over 1600 Twitter followers. The 'Explore Voucher' scheme is promoted via the Facebook page. This scheme is run in conjunction with local businesses and makes a range of special offers and discounts available to anybody who lives in or is visiting the region.

The DevCo also produces an official visitors' guide to the line (Black Book), a promotional leaflet, the Dales Railcard application form and the twice-yearly timetable/lineguide which also includes travel information, What's On pages, Explore vouchers and an illustrated map. Traditional print advertising is placed in a range of publications targeting local, national, international travelers, as well as the specialist group travel market. Continuing enhancements to the website, social media opportunities and the use of electronic newsletters are the way forward, although there is still a need for some traditional forms of marketing.

• Group Travel - a Joint Initiative

The DevCo has been responsible for the promotion and administration of group travel on the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle route for some fifteen years when it was handed over by the then ToC. Using local knowledge, the team have engaged with coach companies, tour operators and individual organisations to increase the number of group passengers on the line. FoSCL's team of On-Train Guides provide a commentary to groups during the journey. The limitations of the current timetable and fleet composition inhibit development of passenger numbers to some extent. The lack of a seat reservation system is a frustration for all involved. Positive action in these areas would allow further improvements to group passenger numbers.

• Success of the Dales Rail Card

The line specific railcard that offers $1/3^{rd}$ off fares has been successful in encouraging local people to use the line. Available to residents in the postcodes areas between Skipton and Carlisle, Skipton and Carnforth and between Carlisle and Brampton and in the Clitheroe/Whalley area, the scheme is also open to members of FoSCL. The annual winter offer for Dales Railcard holders has the benefit of encouraging increased use of services during the winter period when tourist numbers reduce. Currently there are more than 5500 Dales Railcard holders (buoyed by the recent half price offer from Northern). The DevCo leads on the administration and marketing of the product and has facilitated online purchases making the railcard more accessible to residents in the very rural area. Ways of enhancing and publicising this product will be continually explored.

• Success of the Tornado and Flying Scotsman steam services

In February 2017 the Tornado, a custom built steam engine, became the first scheduled steam service (operated by Northern) to run along a UK rail line in 50 years. There was a turnout of more than 5000 passengers with even more spectators along the line. This provided a boost for the local communities and businesses, which had seen a downturn since the landslip at Eden Brows. Subsequently there was a very successful run by Flying Scotsman which

hauled specials from Keighley to celebrate the reopening following the landslip. The possibility of running future special services will be explored.

• Success of community hub structures at rural stations

An issue with many rural railway stations is a lack of permanent structures to provide customer facilities such as toilets, cafes and shops. One solution which has been trialed at Llandeilo is a simple wooden structure, built for around £30,000, with the option of toilet facilities and rain water harvesting. Similar structures could be constructed at stations on the Line where there are no accessible station buildings. They could also serve a seasonal purpose with different companies taking lease of the building at different times, ideal for a tourist use. It would also address the issue of a lack of toilets and facilities at many of the unstaffed stations, which is often a key concern for customers. The space may also be used by the local community.

Action 10: Establish a working group to review best practice and identify potential areas for increasing growth of both patronage of the line and the local economy.

9 Next Steps.

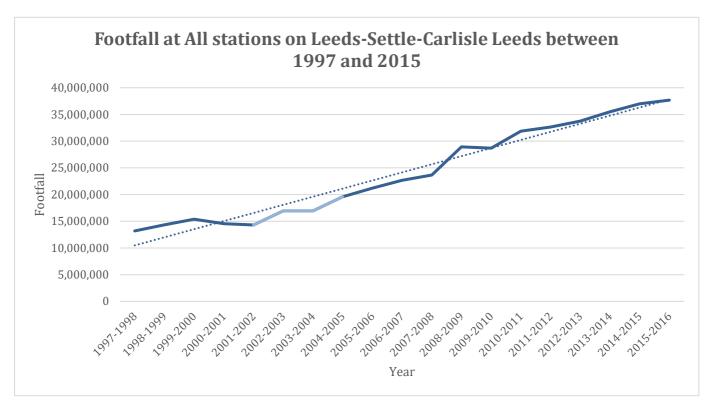
The Action Plan will be led by DevCo in consultation with its partners and reviewed at each board meeting. Regular updates on progress will be provided.

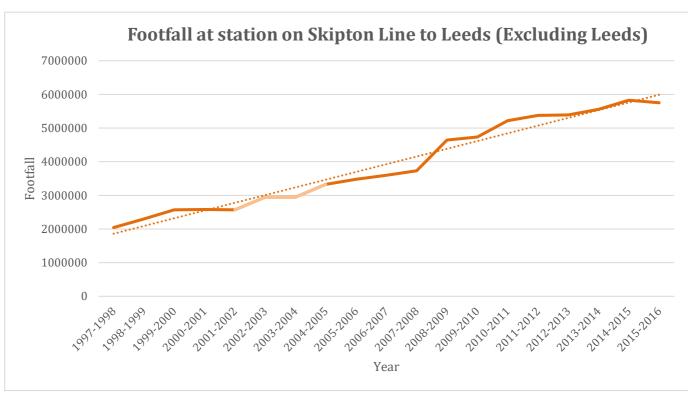
10 Acknowledgements

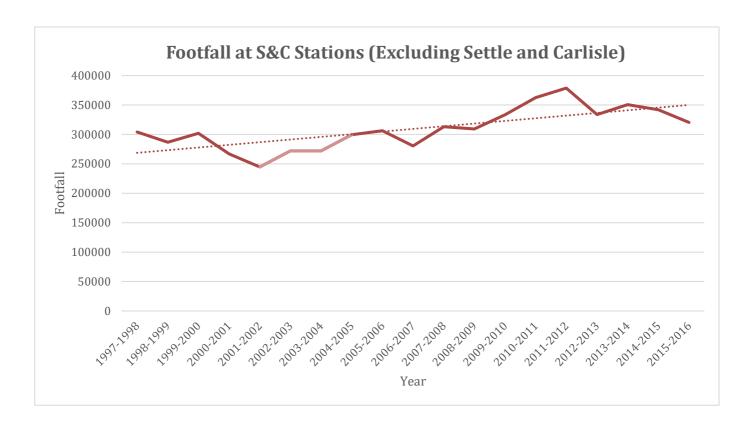
Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this Strategy, especially Hannah Boyes of Northern who did much of the initial work and supporting data.

Approved by the SCLA Council on 3rd July 2017

Appendix 1: Footfall at stations







N.B. the darker line represents actual data, the lighter line is predicted based on general trend.

Appendix 2: Current timetable of services between Carlisle and Leeds

Leeds - Settle - Carlisle

Mondays to Friday	/S										Satur	days							Sund	ays			
																				ZΑ	Ε		
Leeds	d	0529	0849	0947	1049	1249	1449	1806	1919		0619	0849	0947	1049	1249	1449	1750	1919	0900	-	1120	1357	1741
Shipley	d	0542	0902	1002	1102	1302	1502	1819	1932		0632	0902	1002	1102	1302	1502	1803	1932	0915	-	1132	1411	1753
Bingley	d	0549	0906	1006	1106	1306	1506	1824	1937		0636	0906	1006	1106	1306	1506	1808	1936	0922	-	1137	1415	1757
Keighley	d	0556	0912	1012	1112	1312	1512	1829	1942		0642	0912	1012	1112	1312	1512	1813	1942	0929	-	1142	1421	1802
Skipton	a	0613	0924	1024	1124	1324	1524	1845	1957		0655	0924	1024	1124	1324	1524	1829	1957	0946	-	1153	1433	1814
Skipton	d	0616	0926	1026	1126	1326	1526	1846	2000		0656	0926	1026	1126	1326	1526	1835	2000	0948	-	1155	1435	1815
Gargrave	d	-	0932	-	-	1331	-	1851	2006		-	0932	-	-	1331	-	1840	2006	0954	-	-	1440	-
Hellifield	d	0627	0940	-	1137	1340	1537	1900	2015		0708	0940	-	1137	1340	1537	1849	2015	1002	1015	-	1449	1828
Long Preston	d	-	0943	-	-	1342	-	1902	2018		-	0943	-	-	1342	-	1851	2018	-	-	-	1452	-
Settle	d	0636	0950	1044	1146	1348	1545	1908	2024		0715	0950	1044	1146	1348	1545	1857	2024	1011	1035	1214	1458	1835
Horton-In-Ribblesdale	d	-	0958	-	1154	1357	1553	1917	2032		0724	0958	-	1154	1357	1553	1906	2032	1020	1044	-	1507	1844
Ribblehead	d	0651	1006	-	1202	1405	1601	1925	2042a		0732	1006	-	1202	1405	1601	1914	2042a	1028	1052	-	1515	1851
Dent	d	-	1016	-	1212	1414	1611	1934	-		0741	1016	-	1212	1414	1611	1923	-	1038	1102	-	1525	1901
Garsdale	d	0706	1021	-	1217	1420	1616	1940	-		0747	1021	-	1217	1420	1616	1929	-	1043	1107	-	1530	1907
Kirkby Stephen	d	0718	1034	1122	1230	1432	1629	1952	-		0759	1034	1122	1230	1432	1629	1941	-	1056	1120	1251	1543	1919
Appleby	a	0730	1046	1134	1242	1444	1641	2004	-		0811	1046	1134	1242	1444	1641	1953	-	1108	1132	1303	1555	1931
	d	0732	1047	1136	1243	1445	1641	2005	-		0812	1047	1136	1243	1445	1641	1954	-	1110	1134	1305	1556	1931
Langwathby	d	0746	1101	-	1257	1459	1655	2019	-		0826	1101	-	1257	1459	1655	2008	-	1124	1148	-	1610	1945
Lazonby & Kirkoswald	d	0751	1107	-	1303	1504	1701	2024	-		0831	1107	-	1303	1504	1701	2013	-	1130	1154	-	1616	1951
Armathwaite	a	0759	1114	-	1310	1512	1708	2032	-		0839	1114	-	1310	1512	1708	2021	-	1137	1201	-	1623	1959
	d	0759	1115	-	1311	1512	1709	2032	-		0839	1115	-	1311	1512	1709	2021	-	1138	1202	-	1624	1959
Carlisle	a	0817	1132	1217	1329	1533	1728	2052	-	ı	0858	1134	1217	1329	1527	1728	2040	-	1155	1217	1347	1642	2014

Carlisle - Settle - Leeds

Mondays to Friday	/S									Satu	ırda	ys								Sund	ays			
																						F		z c
Carlisle	d	0550	0853	1155	1404	1506	1618	1814	-	-	07	52 (924	1151	1421	1549	1618	1807	-	0925	1259	1520	1700	1757
Armathwaite	a	0603	0906	1208	1417	-	1631	1827	-	-	08	05 (937	1204	1434	-	1631	1820	-	0938	1312	-	1713	1810
	d	0604	0907	1209	1418	-	1632	1828	-	-	80	06 (938	1205	1435	-	1632	1821	-	0939	1313	-	1714	1811
Lazonby & Kirkoswald	d	0611	0914	1216	1425	-	1639	1835	-	-	08	13 (945	1212	1442	-	1639	1828	-	0946	1320	-	1721	1818
Langwathby	d	0618	0920	1222	1431	-	1645	1841	-	-	08	19 ()951	1218	1448	-	1645	1834	-	0953	1327	-	1728	1825
Appleby	a	0632	0934	1236	1445	1541	1659	1855	-	-	08	33 1	1005	1232	1502	1624	1659	1848	-	1007	1341	1555	1742	1839
	d	0632	0935	1236	1447	1543	1701	1856	-	-	08	34 1	1006	1233	1504	1626	1701	1849	-	1007	1341	1557	1743	1840
Kirkby Stephen	d	0646	0948	1250	1500	1556	1714	1909	-	-	08	47 1	1019	1246	1517	1639	1714	1902	-	1021	1355	1610	1757	1854
Garsdale	d	0659	1002	1302	1513	-	1727	1922	-	-	09	000 1	1033	1259	1530	-	1727	1915	-	1034	1408	-	1810	1907
Dent	d	-	1007	1308	1518		1732			-	09	05 1	1038	1304	1535	-	1732	1920	-	1040	1414	-	1816	1913
Ribblehead	d	0714	1017	1317	1529		1742	1937	2100	071	4 09	15 1	1047	1314	1545	-	1742	1930	2100	1049	1423	-	1825	1922
Horton-In-Ribblesdale									2106	072	0 09	21 1	1054	1320	1551	-	1748	1936	2106	1056	1430	-	1832	1929
Settle	d	0728	1032	1332	1545	1634	1757	1951	2114	072	8 09	29 1			1559	1717	1757	1944	2114	1104	1438	1646	1841	1937
Long Preston	d	0734	-	-	1550	-	1803	-	2120	073	4 -	-	-	1334	-	-	1803	-	2120	1110	1444	-	-	-
Hellifield	d	0737	1039	1339	1553	-	1806	1959	2123	073	7 09	37 1	1109	1337	1607	-	1806	1952	2123	1113	1447	-	1851	1948a
Gargrave							1814		2131	074					1615		1814		2131		1455		-	-
Skipton	a	0753	1054	1356	1608	1654	1823	2014	2138	075	3 09	52 1	1124	1355	1622	1738	1823	2007	2140a	1129	1504	1707	1904	
Skipton										075	5 09	55 1	1126	1356	1625	1741	1825	2008	-	1130	1506	1709	1908	-
Keighley										080	8 10	08 1	1137	1407	1637	1751	1837	2018	2203	1140	1516	1720	1918	-
Bingley	d	0812	1113	1413	1627	1714	1843	2030	2209	081	3 10	12 1	1143	1413	1643	1755	1843	2023	2209	1144	1520	1725	1923	-
Shipley	d	0819	1120	1420	1632	1720	1849	2035	2217	081	9 10	19 1	1150	1420	1650	1801	1850	2028	2216	1149	1525	1730	1932	-
Leeds	a	0837	1136	1437	1653	1738	1907	2050	2234	I 083	6 10	35 1	1207	1436	1707	1817	1907	2045	2234	1 1205	1545	1746	1948	-

Appendix 3: Stations Strategy.

See separate attachment.

Appendix 4: Northern Station Improvement Plan 2017-2019

	SETTLE & CARLISLE LINE STRATEGY: S	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4+		
		2017/18		2019/20	2021 -		
Station	Project						
Route	Form Station Improvement Group (SIG)	Х					
Settle	New heritage lighting	х					
	New waiting Shelter	х					
	CIS						
	TVM						
	CCTV						
	Safe by design						
	Signage						
	Refurbished waiting room						
Horton in Ribblesale	CIS						
	CCTV						
	TVM						
	Safe by design						
Ribblehead	Repairs to down side shelter	х					
	CIS						
	TVM						
	Refurbished waiting room						
	CCTV						
	Visitor Centre Project	х					
	Additional seating						
	Safe by design						
	Gateway signage	х					
Dent	CIS						
	Safe by design						
	ССТУ						
Garsdale	CIS						
	TVM						
	Safe by design						
	CCTV						
Kirkby Stephen	CIS						
	TVM						
	Safe by design						
Appleby	New waiting shelter on up side	X					
	Refurbished toilets						
	TVM						
	Additional seating						
	Safe by design						
	CIS						
Langwathby	TVM						
	CCTV						
	Safe by design						
Lazonby & Kirkoswald	TVM						
	CCTV						
	Safe by design		1	1			
Armathwaite	CIS		1				
	Refurbished waiting room			1			
	CCTV		1	1			
	Additional seating		1	40			
	Signage			12			
	Safe by design			1			

Action 1: Collect and analyze data on through services and identify opportunities for improvement (timing, ticketing, connections, marketing, extra services, journey times). Northern to consider a desktop exercise to scope out this project. This may lead to a market research exercise supported by the use of on-train volunteers. (Northern initially)

Action 2: Explore opportunities to work with other train operating companies. (DevCo)

Action 3: DevCo to lead a discussion and then respond to the Northern consultation by the first week in July (DevCo)

Action 4: Set up a Passenger train services group to explore the opportunity to reduce journey times, look at further through journey opportunities and hence drive passenger journeys. This group would work with Northern, Network Rail and other interested parties including Rail North to review opportunities. Note: see background discussion paper.(DevCo)

Action 5: As recommended in the Stations Strategy set up a Stations Improvement Group to identify projects which are not covered by Northern's Station Improvement Fund programme and create a case for further improvements, especially improved passenger facilities, accessibility and customer information. SCLA members to consider projects they can fund/manage. (DevCo with FoSCL)

Action 6: Conduct customer and stakeholder surveys to identify priorities. (DevCo)

Action 7: Scope a Community Hub pilot project. (Trust/DevCo with FoSCL)

Action 8: Northern to consider how to improve train cleanliness, attractiveness and facilities prior to new trains becoming available. (Northern)

Action 9: Explore the opportunity to run special trains (not necessarily steam) to provide additional interest and extra services, possibly over the summer months. The scope would include origin and destination and ticket pricing. This may be through an independent operator. (DevCo/FOSCL)

Action 10: Establish a working group to review best practice and identify potential areas for increasing growth of both patronage of the line and the local economy. (Devco/Northern)