



# GEOGRAPHY

**Welcome to the Geography Super Curriculum. Below you'll find a whole host of things to do to stretch yourself beyond the classroom curriculum.**

Here in the UK we are fortunate enough to have not only a substantial road network, from minor roads to motorways, but also an equally extensive rail network. This infrastructure facilitates, amongst other things, trade and business for the UK. At times though, these networks have been considered to be unequal in their ability to connect the north of the country with the south, creating something termed as the *North-South divide*.

A new high-speed rail network (HS2) has been planned and developed to help combat this. However, the UK Government recently announced that the Manchester and Leeds leg of the project has been scrapped.

What now then for this scheme, and its future for improving the rail network in the UK?

## READ

Read the information on the HS2 website and consider what you think the costs and benefits of the new high-speed rail network might be:

[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

## WATCH

Watch this news clip about the scrapping of the northern part of HS2. Are there any positives for those living in the north of England? Will this make the *North-South divide* wider?

[HS2: What do people in the north think about the scrapping of train line?](#) - YouTube

## LISTEN

Listen to this radio programme which was recorded back in 2013 when HS2 was in its early stages.

The programme discusses who it thinks the 'winners and losers' will be. Considering what you already now know about HS2, are these 'winners and losers' still the same now?

[File on 4 - HS2: Winners and Losers](#) - BBC Sounds

## DO

Consider the information from the various resources.

A news article has asked the following question about HS2: '*A waste of money or worthwhile?*'

What would your answer to this question be now? Do some further research of your own to decide whether the costs outweigh the benefits, or vice versa.