

ADVANTAGES OF THE METROTIDAL SEA REACH LINK

The integrated infrastructure Sea Reach link between Allhallows-on-Sea and Southend-on-Sea has the following advantages over landward links further west: -

1 Best flood defence system

- shortest flood defence line
- lowest flood defence datum
- greatest landward area of flood protection
- highest flood resilience for longest duration (TE2200)

2 Most powerful rail orbitals

- single link completes the Thames and London R25 Orbitals
- best geographical spread of orbital stations
- best orbital-radial station connections
- serves current plans for 100,000 new homes beyond M25
- serves key recreation areas; Southend, Hoo Peninsula, Medway Towns
- serves Thamesport and Southend Airport
- makes best use of existing and former railway lines

3 Generates green-growth

- rail and micro-mobility led transport
- floating solar array generates energy for 100,000 new homes
- tidal cooling for efficient data storage
- rail wayleaves for FTTP data distribution

4 Most economic benefits

- integrated infrastructure saves costs
- best cost/benefit ratio
- widest connectivity and agglomeration benefits

5 Least environmental impact

- protects the largest area of estuary habitat from rising sea levels
- shortest new railway lines required on land
- least terrestrial impacts
- least third party impacts

6 Complements the Medway system

- same rail line across the Hoo for the Medway system
- main part of the coastal route between Southend and Sittingbourne