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TfL pledges £100m spend on devolved rail routes

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Transport for London has promised to refurbish 104 suburban railway stations if the government agrees to give the Mayor of London responsibility for running train services in the capital currently operated by Southeastern and Greater Anglia.

The Mayor's request to take over the routes in the south east and north west of London was submitted to the Department for Transport this week following the government's pledge to allow greater local control of rail services.

If it agrees to the London rail devolution proposal, 104 stations would be added to the London Overground network and rebranded accordingly. TfL claims the transfer of routes would save £100m over 20 years, money which it wants to use to bring stations up to existing London Overground standards.

TfL would let a concession, similar to that operated by LOROL for current Overground lines, to run the north west and south eastern routes. There are also plans for a major ticketing shake-up which could see fares changed to provide more consistent pricing of public transport journeys across the capital.

Mayor of London Boris Johnson said: "London's rail passengers deserve far better service than the current franchises deliver and the economic benefits of properly investing in our rail infrastructure are huge. This plan gives us the opportunity to create a truly joined up suburban railway system that would vastly improve service and deliver better stations. A more coherent London-wide structure would bring more frequent trains, safer stations and sanity to a mind bogglingly complex fares system."

London Overground: TfL wants to extend standards to south east and north west routes



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