

# SIEMENS

# THE FUTURE OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Nearly half of the UK's population lives in one of the country's ten most populous urban areas. Our cities already account for a disproportionate share of greenhouse gas emissions and pose significant waste disposal and water supply problems. But on the other hand, the population density of urban living offers huge opportunities for greater efficiency if the structures and the technology can be put in place. With environmental issues increasingly moving up the agenda, there has never been a better time to consider how to make the future of our communities sustainable. With this in mind, Total Politics in association with Siemens asked politicians at all levels, including MPs, MSPs, Welsh Assembly Members, council leaders and senior council officers, for their vision for the future to try and determine how the UK's law-makers expect their communities to change and evolve with the new challenges of sustainability and economic austerity.

## TRANSPORT

### ELECTRIC CARS

Does your local authority have plans to install charging points for electric cars in the near future?

Conservative council leaders		Labour council leaders		Lib Dem council leaders	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
21%	74%	0%	86%	38%	38%

### HIGH-SPEED RAIL

Would you welcome the expansion of high-speed rail in your area?

**Conservative MPs**  
67% welcome high-speed rail  
17% welcome it with some reservations

"More capacity is the key issue at peak times"

**Lib Dem MPs**  
60% welcome high-speed rail  
40% welcome it with some reservations

**Conservative council leaders**  
50% welcome high-speed rail  
24% welcome it with some reservations

"The North of England needs better transport links to help economic growth"

"It would depend on physical damage done to the area, and the alternatives available"

**Lib Dem council leaders**  
50% welcome high-speed rail  
38% welcome it with some reservations

"I'd prefer to sort out overcrowded trains"

**Labour MPs**  
75% welcome high-speed rail  
19% welcome it with some reservations

**Labour council leaders**  
100% support high-speed rail

**Other council leaders**  
67% welcome high-speed rail  
**MSPs**  
80% welcome high-speed rail  
**Welsh Assembly Members**  
67% welcome high-speed rail