Route Characteristics

- Electrification
- Gauge
- Freight characteristics
- Depots and Stabling
- Significant enhanced infrastructure in CP5.

Electrification

Electrification can deliver reduced journey times by improving the rate at which rolling stock is able to reach linespeed. Regenerative braking can deliver environmental benefits by reducing energy cost, while the greater haulage capability of electric traction can reduce journey times for freight traffic, improving overall capacity on key routes. When combined with suitable signalling systems, electrification can often contribute significantly to improving the overall capacity of the network.

Within Scotland, electrification is currently centred on the core Glasgow commuter routes, the West Coast Main Line and the East Coast Main Line south and west of Edinburgh. The electrified network is being significantly expanded during CP5, as a result of the Edinburgh-Glasgow Improvement Project (EGIP) and the Rolling Programme of Electrification. This will mean that all routes between Edinburgh and Glasgow will have been electrified by March 2019 in addition to those to Stirling, Dunblane and Alloa.