

Did Beeching lead to Brexit?

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Some here will not have noticed [a column by Larry Elliott in the Guardian](#) yesterday, in which he discussed the consequences of the 1960s Beeching report that led to the closure of thousands of miles of railway line. His argument can be summarised in this paragraph:

[P]erhaps the most baleful legacy of Beeching has been the way in which it has led to towns and villages — often in the most economically challenged parts of the country — becoming isolated. Beeching contributed to the UK's geographical divide between thriving big cities and struggling smaller towns. Without Beeching there might not have been a vote for Brexit.

Worth reading, I think.