



Underwhelmed by Brown review of rail franchising

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Rail campaigners today gave a lukewarm reception to the new Brown review of rail franchising. "To be honest, we're rather underwhelmed by this" said Bruce Williamson from the campaign group Railfuture "The report contains a lot of common sense, but there's nothing particularly radical in there, almost to the point where this report was not needed"

"Whilst we welcome the suggestion that moves should be made to improve local devolution of services, and to put the passengers needs above those of the Treasury, we feel that it's important that this is only the start of the debate. If the government is serious about making franchising work, it needs to go much further than simply tweaking the existing process. This must be the basis for further discussions with all interested parties, especially passengers"

Notes to editors

Railfuture is the UK's leading independent organisation campaigning for better rail services for both passengers and freight.

The Brown report can be downloaded here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-brown-review-of-the-rail-franchising-programme>

Railfuture's website can be found at: <http://www.railfuture.org.uk>

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