

The **monthly** branch newsletter of **railfuture** in London and the South East

Britain's leading *independent* campaign for a bigger better railway for passengers and freight

## London Metro Mayoral Manifesto

During this month we intend to publish our four-year Rail Manifesto for London, 2024-28, ahead of May's elections for the Mayor of London and the 25 members of the London Assembly (AMs) – 14 representing constituencies and 11 elected London-wide. Only the London Metro Division has a specific remit to address all of TfL's rail operations – London Trams, Docklands Light Railway, Elizabeth Line, London Underground, London Overground. Other Divisions cover the TOCs, London Metro can cover their London operations too.

## What shall we be doing this month?

London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, will be:-

~ liaising internally on our response to Transport for London's consultation on extending the Docklands Light Railway from Gallions Reach to Thamesmead, via Beckton Riverside, closing Monday 18 March.



~ preparing for Wealden District Council's 8-week consultation on its draft Local Plan, starting in March.



~ participating in Network Rail's follow-up workshop on a Medway Valley Line Strategic Study.

~ participating in a Hadley Wood RUG event about lineside vegetation management, aka 'Treegate'!

~ participating in the Liverpool Street station launch by Varamis of high-speed parcels by passenger train.

~ participating in an in-person Southeast CRP MarshLink Line Steering Group.

~ running a branch campaigns stall, Alexandra Palace.

~ holding regular **online** meetings of our Eastern, Herts & Beds and Sussex & Coastway Divisions, and a London Metro Division meeting in person.

~ holding a regular **online** meeting of L&SE regional branch's committee.

## What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-February edition of **inter-railse** no.68, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, have:

~ participated in two East Sussex County Council stakeholder workshops to develop the second County Rail Strategy, and to develop a Freight Strategy.

~ participated in a Southeast CRP North Downs Line **online** Steering Group.

~ participated in a GWR **online** stakeholder forum.

~ held regular **online** meetings of our Herts & Beds, Kent, London Metro, and Sussex & Coastway Divisions.

~ held a regular **online** meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee.

~ overseen consultation responses to

- # Lewes District Council on its 'spatial strategy and policies directions' for its new Local Plan (2020-40);
- # Medway Council on the Neighbourhood Plan for Hoo St. Werburgh and Chattenden;



- # East Sussex County Council on its survey for its draft Local Transport Plan 4 (2024-50);



- # England's Economic Heartland's Call for Evidence for Luton - Bedford - Corby corridor Connectivity Study.

**Our vision for Railfuture:** An independent organisation whose views are respected by the rail industry, to which decision makers come for advice, which rail users are proud to join and recommend.

## Britain's Growing Railway in London and South East: March birthdays

~ in 1991 (date/s in March uncertain) new 3-platform Stansted Airport station, and north and south chords off W. Anglia Main Line; airport open officially on 15<sup>th</sup>.

~ on 27<sup>th</sup>, in 2008, Heathrow Airport T5 extension from Heathrow Central / T1-3, and new Terminal 5 station.

**Our vision for rail:** A railway system that provides services which travellers and freight forwarders want to use, and which offers more journey opportunities to more people and more freight.

## Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

**Thursday 7 March** Passenger rail performance Q3 2023/24 (October-December 2023) published - Public Performance Measure (PPM), Cancelled and Significantly Late (CaSL).

**Thursday 7 March** Sussex & Coastway Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Wednesday 13 March** Eastern Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Thursday 14 March** Freight rail usage and performance Q3 2023/24 (October-December 2023) published - freight moved, freight lifted, normalised freight delay.

**Thursday 14 March** Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Saturday 16 / Sunday 17 March** Railfuture L&SE regional branch campaigns stall at London Festival of Railway Modelling, Alexandra Palace, London N22.



**Monday 18 March** Community Rail Awards winners announced at Gala Dinner in Swansea.

**Thursday 21 March** Passenger rail usage Q3 2023/24 (October-December 2023) published - Passenger train KM, Passenger KM, journeys, revenue.

**Thursday 21 March** London Metro Division evening meeting, in-person. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Friday 22 March** ORR publishes Passenger rail performance: Cancellations data for Period 12, 4 February – 2 March.

**Tuesday 26 March** Thames Valley regional branch members' meeting in Oxford with Chiltern Railways speaker, Stakeholder Manager Zach Bailey.

**Good Friday 29 March – Sunday 14 April** Easter school holiday.

**Easter Saturday 30 March** Nominations close for Railfuture's national Rail User Group Awards 2024.



**Easter Sunday 31 March** Revised closing date for nominations to Branch Committee.

**Thursday 11 April** Sussex & Coastway Division evening meeting, in-person. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Saturday 20 April** London & South East regional branch open morning meeting with guest speakers followed by members-only afternoon AGM.

Full details in our [Events](#) and [Rail dates](#) web pages.

## Railfuture is 'in the news' / 'making the news' / sharing 'news and views'

~ Stay abreast of Railfuture members making, not just watching, things happen in our website [media extracts](#).  
~ Stay abreast of Railfuture making, not just reporting, the news through our [press releases](#).  
~ Stay abreast of Railfuture's and others' reports and thoughts published in our [website articles](#).

~ Railfuture is active on [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [LinkedIn](#).

## Be in it to win it - join Railfuture's Lottery!

Members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – can support Railfuture by joining our monthly [lottery](#).

## Railfuture publications by email

~ All members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – are being encouraged to receive [Railwatch](#) direct to their Inbox immediately on publication by logging-in at [Member services](#).

~ receive Railfuture's regular monthly newsletter [Rail User Express](#) direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk)  
~ receive Railfuture's occasional [Rail Action](#) bulletin direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk)

This branch e-newsletter is free, published monthly and distributed to branch members with their GDPR consent Items for our newsletters, and our branch Local Action column in *railwatch*, to [londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk)

# railfuture

**Railfuture's mission: to be the number one advocate for Britain's railway and rail users**

Website: [Welcome to Railfuture](#) Twitter: [@RailfutureLSE](#)

Railfuture Limited is a not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England & Wales no. 05011634.  
Registered Office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset, BS21 7NP (legal correspondence only).  
All other correspondence to 14 Ghent Field Circle, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3UP