



BRITAIN'S LEADING PRO-RAIL CAMPAIGNING GROUP FOR PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT

www.railfuture.org.uk

www.railfuturescotland.org.uk

www.railfuturewales.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE - 21 MARCH 2001

RAIL PRESSURE GROUP LAUNCHES CYBER CAMPAIGN

"The year 2001 should be an epic turning point for the railways," says *Railfuture*, the independent campaign for a better rail network as it launches a petition on its website which gives the public a chance to have a say in what the railways should be like.

Railfuture's cyber petition '2001: A Rail Odyssey' is 'going live' on www.railfuture.org.uk today (21st March). This campaign aims to show support for a railway that should be

- safer to use
- easier to use
- less expensive
- bigger, with more stations and lines
- easier to combine with driving, cycling, walking and taking the bus, and
- taking freight off our overloaded roads.

"The recent traumas on the railways have highlighted how much the network needs to be improved, and also how much we need the railway at the heart of our transport system," says Peter Lawrence, chairman of Railfuture.

"We urge the public to log on and 'sign' our petition, which will be running throughout 2001," continues Mr Lawrence. "The campaign will demonstrate to the government and the rail industry how much the public want a bigger and better railway."

The www.railfuture.org.uk web-site also contains:

- an opinion poll where the public can vote on what should be done with the railways
- information on how the public can get involved in local campaigns for a better rail service
- contacts for rail passenger groups set up for specific lines and services
- information about Railfuture's regional branches throughout the UK
- links to other sites to make it easier to use rail services

NOTE FOR EDITORS (Revised 2015)

Railfuture is the campaigning name of the Railway Development Society Ltd (a not for profit) Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England and Wales No. 5011634. Reg. Office: 24 Chedworth Place, Tattingsstone, Suffolk IP9 2ND

Railfuture is Britain's only completely independent voice on railway development. We are not affiliated to or sponsored by any political party, trade union, or private industry. We are funded almost entirely by our members.

Railfuture's President is Christian Wolmar, the well-known writer on rail issues. Its Vice Presidents include several retired train company chief executives, transport experts, MPs and MEPs from all main political parties and the former Secretary of State for Transport Lord Adonis. A full list of the *Railfuture* presidents can be found on our web-site at

<http://www.railfuture.org.uk/vice+presidents>.

Railfuture campaigns for Britain's railways to play a larger role for passengers and freight, calling for an enhanced and expanded network, including high-speed rail, along with light rail.

Rail is a vital part of an integrated efficient transport system serving a modern, vibrant, environmentally sustainable economy. We are pro-rail but not anti-road. *Railfuture* maintains that investment in rail travel and rail freight is vital to the future of the UK economy and environment.

Anyone supporting our aims can join online: www.railfuture.org.uk/join

For more information please contact:

Bruce Williamson (Media Spokesman)

Tel: 0117 927 2954 Mobile: 07759 557389

E-mail: media@railfuture.org.uk

Media passes to *Railfuture* conferences: Please contact Bruce Williamson. Details of our forthcoming conferences are listed at www.railfuture.org.uk/conferences.

www.railfuture.org.uk Railfuture is on Twitter: [@Railfuture](https://twitter.com/Railfuture)