

Railfuture in London and the South East **new, monthly** branch e-newsletter

The *independent* campaign for a bigger better British passenger and freight rail network

Welcome!

An *inter*-mediate *railse* is an experiment in a more frequent communication with branch members, or at least with those who have agreed to let us use their email address, to bridge the few months' gap between the printed quarterly newsletters which you get with Railwatch. It is also posted on the branch web-page: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/London+and+South+East>

Railfuture is so communicative!

All this output [and not a single paid member of staff!]

railwatch – <http://www.railwatch.org.uk/>
railse – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/London+and+South+East+branch+news>
Rail Action – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Rail+Action>
Rail User Express – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Rail+User+Express>
Twitter – <https://twitter.com/@RailfutureLSE>
YouTube – <https://www.youtube.com/user/RailfutureGB>
Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/railfuture/>
LinkedIn – <https://www.linkedin.com/in/railfuture-in-great-britain-b5922a30/>
Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/12135242142/>

As if that's not enough, wrap your eyes around these:

News and views – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/articles>
Media – Railfuture in the media: online, on air, in print – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Railfuture+in+the+news>
Media – Railfuture messages out to the media: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Press+releases>
Our cause – influence - informed and independent – <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Consultation+responses>

What publicity about our achievements can you add?

You too can help shape what Railfuture in London & the South East says and does, and help it be a lean, keen campaigning machine. Can you help shrink our 'situations vacant' column? We can make good use of a Membership Co-ordinator/'welcome host' for new members, a Media Co-ordinator, and branch Secretary. Also needed is a London Metro Division Convener, not to mention TOC Liaisons for TfL Rail/Elizabeth line, London Underground, and Docklands Light Railway.

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.*

London & SE Campaigns Calendar

Railfuture's campaigning takes many forms; one is by seeking to influence the outcomes from consultations.

This www.railfuture.org.uk/London+and+South+East includes **current consultations** of specific and general interest to our London and South East region:

DEFRA's Air quality: draft Clean Air strategy 2018 – published on 22 May, closes on 14 August. See <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/clean-air-strategy-consultation/>

DfT's new Cross Country franchise – published on 7 June, closes on 30 August. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/cross-country-rail-franchise>

Office of Rail and Road's draft determination on Network Rail's Strategic Business Plans for Control Period 6 (2019-24) – published on 12 June, closes on 31 August. See <http://orr.gov.uk/rail/consultations/pr18-consultations/pr18-draft-determination>

House of Commons Transport Committee's Call for Evidence on the scale and impact of the May 2018 timetabling changes – issued on 9 July, closes on 5 September. See <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/transport-committee/news-parliament-2017/rail-timetable-changes-call-for-evidence-17-19/> Responses can also be submitted via Twitter at #railtimetabling: <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/transport-committee/news-parliament-2017/rail-timetable-changes-passenger-experience-twitter-17-19/>

Network Rail's application for an Order under the Transport & Works Act for Phase 2 of the Western section of East-West Rail – published on 27 July, closes on 7 September. See <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/our-railway-upgrade-plan/key-projects/east-west-rail/western-section/> and <https://www.eastwestrail.org.uk/>

Rail Delivery Group's Easier fares – fares and ticketing reforms – published on 4 June, closes on 10 September. See <https://www.britainrunsonrail.co.uk/fares>

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

We saw it, said it – will it be sorted?

This www.railfuture.org.uk/Consultation+responses features our various submissions. Recently added are:

House of Commons Transport Committee – Call for Evidence on the scale and impact of the May 2018 timetabling changes.

ORR's Inquiry into May 2018 network disruption – our response on Thameslink and Great Northern.

GLA Transport Committee – Call for Evidence on the future of rail in London.

Carry on campaigning!

In 2018/19 our rail development campaigning is mainly through our six Divisions. Each has at least one:

Eastern – new Essex County Rail Strategy

Herts & Beds - Midland Main Line timetable, next East Midlands franchise

Kent - Hoo Peninsula railway, KenEx Thames Transit

London Metro - West London Line service frequency

Surrey - North Downs line, Heathrow Southern Railway

Sussex & Coastway - MarshLink/East Coastway, Uckfield line upgrade/extension, Thameslink 2.

See: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Current+London+and+South+East+campaigns>

In other news (following our input):

Any unresolved objections to **Rother Valley Railway's** application to the DfT for an Order under the Transport & Works Act to construct, operate and maintain a new railway between **Bodiam and Robertsbridge** will be heard at a Public Local Inquiry, to be arranged.

TfL Holborn station capacity upgrade – update on 5 July: <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/tube/holborn-station-upgrade/>

Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership published *Gatwick 360*, their Strategic Economic Plan for 2018-30, on 23 July. See <http://www.coast2capital.org.uk/strategy/>

Transport for the South East's final Economic Connectivity Review was published on 25 July. See <https://transportforthesoutheast.org.uk/strategy/ecr/>

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



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

Websites: www.railfuture.org.uk www.railfuture.org.uk/London+and+South+East

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Forthcoming calendar/diary dates

Check these - <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Events> and <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Rail+dates> - for details.

Wednesday 15 August Opening of new platform at Princes Risborough for services to and from Chinnor: <https://www.chinnorrailway.co.uk/product.php/196/princes-risborough-platform-4-opens>

Saturday 18 August Kent Division – tbc.
See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Kent>

Monday 27 August Final copy date for your letters, articles, pictures to appear in October's *railwatch* 157. Send them direct to editor@railwatch.org.uk

Friday 30 August Final date for members-only 'early-bird' bookings for Reading conference, 10 November. Book online: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/conferences>

Saturday 1 September Closing date for entries to Railfuture's annual Rail User Group Awards. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/RUG+Awards>

Thursday 6 September Sussex & Coastway Division. <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Sussex+and+Coastway>

Wednesday 12 September Eastern Division. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Eastern>

Saturday 22 September Railfuture East Midlands branch open meeting, East Midlands Parkway station. <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/East+Midlands+Branch>

Tuesday 25 September L&SE branch committee.

Saturday 29 September Railfuture East Anglia branch open meeting, Norwich. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/East+Anglia>

Thursday 4 October Sussex & Coastway Division.

Saturday 20 October Herts & Beds Division. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Herts+and+Beds>

Saturday 10 November Railfuture's annual national autumn conference, in Reading, with RUG Awards.

Wednesday 14 November Eastern Division.

Tuesday 27 November Surrey Division. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Surrey>