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PRESS RELEASE

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RAIL CAMPAIGNERS GIVE WARM WELCOME TO NEWS THAT SWINDON-KEMBLE LINE WILL BE RE-DOUBLED

Rail campaigners have given a warm welcome to news that the line between Swindon and Kemble is to be re-doubled

Nigel Bray from the pressure group Railfuture said "This is great news and it's something we've been campaigning for over many years. It removes a long standing bottleneck in the main rail artery between Gloucester and London so that services can be expanded.

It's vitally important to expand the diversionary route for London to south Wales now that electrification of the Great Western mainline has been approved.

With double track, there will be fewer delays when trains are running late, and it will also be possible to run more frequent trains, maybe up to two per hour in each direction. The present timetable works with the single track only when everything is running on time, but any disruption or extra diverted trains can cause delays because of the restriction.

We also expect time savings too, with faster services to and from London"

Notes for editors:

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, Tattingstone, 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.

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.

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