



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

[www.railfuture.org.uk](http://www.railfuture.org.uk)

[www.railfuturescotland.org.uk](http://www.railfuturescotland.org.uk)

[www.railfuturewales.org.uk](http://www.railfuturewales.org.uk)

## **PRESS RELEASE - 25 APRIL 2000**

### **HIDDEN COSTS OF VIRGIN TRAINS' NEW FARES**

*Railfuture*, the national campaign for better rail services, warns that Virgin's announcement of 7.5% cheaper Saver tickets masks the abolition of the cheaper Super-Saver ticket, leading to a fare INCREASE of up to 8.5% for some journeys.

For example, although the cost of a Saver return ticket between Glasgow and London will be reduced by £2 from £79 to £77, as of May 28<sup>th</sup> you will no longer be able to purchase the current £71 Super-Saver, which is valid every day except Fridays.

At the moment Virgin has two types of 'walk-on' fares, the Super-Saver and the Saver. After 28<sup>th</sup> May there will still be two 'walk-on' fares, the Saver and the new Weekender according to Railfuture's spokesperson, who says:

"It appears that this is merely a re-naming of the two ticket types. If this is the case, then the cheapest long-distance return ticket that doesn't have to be booked in advance will increase by up to 8.5%. Furthermore, the less restricted but more expensive walk-on fare will increase by a whopping 24% - an unacceptable rise for Virgin's passengers."

### **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 *Railfuture* vice presidents can be found on our web-site: <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](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/join)

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

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