



London Metro Division London and South East branch Newsletter: June 2024

railfuture

WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of the Railfuture London Metro Division newsletter. With our meetings being held in January, March, May, July, September and November, our intention is to issue a Metro newsletter in each intervening month. Amongst other matters it will give notice of the next meeting, as well as provide a link to the minutes of the preceding meeting.

For an organisation as large as Railfuture, that traces its roots back to 1951, a little history and explanation is perhaps necessary. London Metro is a division of the London and South East Branch of Railfuture, a national organisation with 14 branches throughout Great Britain. The London and South East Branch itself comprises six divisions, of which the London Metro Division is one. The importance of London has meant that matters affecting it have often been dealt with at the higher Branch level, and today the Branch is still very much involved in the work of Metro. However a campaign group often works best when closest to the community it serves, and this has led to recent changes at Metro Division, which now takes the leading role on London related matters, being completely dedicated to London and holding regular meetings at a central London location (Alan Baxter Gallery, Farringdon).

Our focus includes London Underground, London Overground, Docklands Light Railway, London Tramlink and Elizabeth line services, as well as other rail services within the capital.

We work together with other organisations and authorities which share our common goals, in particular rail user groups and sustainable transport organisations.

We aim to influence London's decision-makers and in doing so we engage with politicians at all levels, as well as key bodies such as Transport for London.

Please come along to our regular meetings and tell us what concerns you about London's rail services.

MEETING NEWS

Next Meeting - Visit by Transport for London

Our next meeting is one not to be missed, as we are visited by **Transport for London (TfL)**.

Alex Philips and David Warner will join us to tell us about TfL's future plans for our railways.

Alex is Rail Development Manager who has responsibility for leading TfL's National Rail, DLR, London Overground and London Trams planning activity. David is a TfL Senior Business Analyst.

The meeting is on Thursday 18 July at the Alan Baxter Gallery, Front Basement Room, 75 Cowcross Street, London (a short walk from Farringdon station) and starts at 7pm.

Our meeting room has limited space and accordingly numbers to this meeting will be limited. If you wish to attend, please notify your intention to do so by email to lse-londonmetro@railfuture.org.uk; if needed, we will allocate places on a first come, first served basis.

Future Meetings for 2024

London Metro Division has a rolling programme of meetings in 2024, namely the 3rd Thursday of each alternating month. Meetings run from 7pm to 8.30pm.

Our remaining meetings for 2024 are on:

Thursday 18 July 2024

Thursday 19 September 2024; and

Thursday 21 November 2024

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of our meeting held on 16 May 2024 are available via [this link](#) and will be approved at the next meeting.

Our websites: www.railfuture.org.uk | www.railfuture.org.uk/London-Metro | www.railwatch.org.uk
follow us on X/Twitter: [@Railfuture](#) | [@RailfutureLSE](#) | [@Railwatch](#)

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



London Metro Division London and South East branch Newsletter: June 2024

railfuture

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Campaigns for 2024

The following major projects are of particular interest to Metro Division and are the focus of our campaigning at the present time:

- West London Orbital Route
- Extension of Bakerloo Line to Lewisham
- Extension of Docklands Light Railway to Thamesmead

We welcome all views of our members on these projects.

HS2: Old Oak Common and Euston

The postponement of work on HS2 from Old Oak Common (OOC) to Euston is of national concern, but particularly affects Londoners. We urge government to ensure that HS2 is completed to Euston.

Metro Division is alert to the disruption to local services likely to occur at OOC pending completion of the Euston extension.

Opportunities however also exist, in particular the opening of new stations on adjacent London Overground lines, and on the proposed West London orbital route which passes nearby.

Other Campaigns

In March 2024 the Metro Division released its 'Rail Manifesto for London Elections 2024' comprising ten tasks to improve London's railways. This can be found [here](#).

These include having a unified rail system under the direction of the Mayor, a four trains per hour minimum service, fares that are fair and ticketing that is simple to use.

These are all matters of importance on which we campaign. Please join us.

CLOSURE AND TRAFFIC NEWS

For up-to-date details, go to TfL website.

Our brief summary of main closure events

London Underground:

Piccadilly Line:

June: Sat 20 and Sun 21: Kings Cross to Heathrow and Uxbridge closed.

July: Sat 27 and Sun 28: Kings Cross to Cockfosters closed.

Northern Line:

Kentish Town station remains closed and Northern line trains will not stop until late summer 2024. Colindale station will be closed between Friday 7 June and December 2024 for station improvements.

London Overground:

June and July: On number of weekends, Hackney Downs to Enfield & Cheshunt closed.

July: Mon 22 July to Fri 2 August: Hackney Downs to Chingford closed.

Elizabeth Line:

June: Many Mondays to Wednesdays: Reduced services from West Drayton to Maidenhead and Heathrow T4 after around 10.30pm, and some dates trains not stopping at Acton Main Line, Hanwell and West Ealing after that time.

Docklands Light Railway:

June: On numerous days, no late-night service.

July: Fri 5 to Sun 7: Reduced service on entire network.

July: Sat 13 and Sun 14: Bank and Tower Gateway to Canary Wharf and Canning Town closed.

Southeastern:

The new June timetable has re-introduced a peak-hours only service from the Sidcup branch to Abbey Wood (for connections onto the Elizabeth Line). Now we'd like to see services re-introduced at other times too!

Our websites: www.railfuture.org.uk | www.railfuture.org.uk/London-Metro | www.railwatch.org.uk
follow us on X/Twitter: [@Railfuture](https://twitter.com/Railfuture) | [@RailfutureLSE](https://twitter.com/RailfutureLSE) | [@Railwatch](https://twitter.com/Railwatch)

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



London Metro Division London and South East branch Newsletter: June 2024

railfuture

OUT AND ABOUT

Visit to Old Oak Common

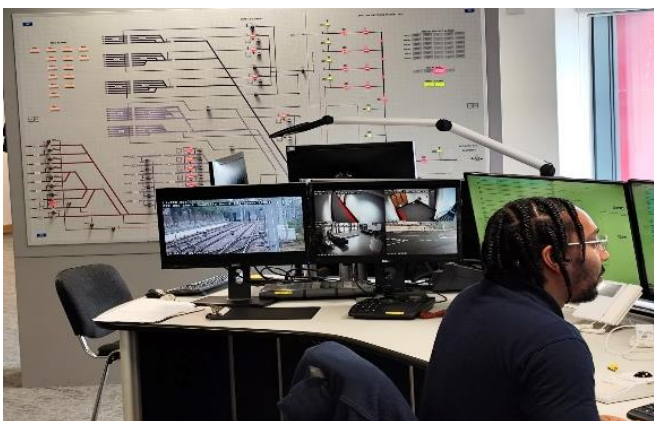
On 16 May 2024 our Chair paid a visit the Elizabeth Line's Old Oak Common Traction Maintenance Depot, a visit organised by Howard Smith of TfL and Friends of the London Transport Museum.

The depot is the main maintenance facility for all Elizabeth Line trains, and has 33 stabling lines in total, nine of which are roads inside a brand-new maintenance shed.

The new building includes offices, as well as a control room that overlooks the outdoor storage lines and controls the train movements of the entire depot, operated by a single person.

There are also two train simulators used to help train the drivers, and which speeds up the training process. An instructor oversees the trainee, and can throw up typical problems whilst the trainee is driving. The simulators are identical to Elizabeth line driver cabs, the front window having a screen to project the actual line.

The depot is alongside the earth works for the new station at Old Oak Common, the visit enabling a sneak view as to progress. The HS2 station will be underground, with six HS2 platforms built within a 1 km long rectangular station box at a depth of 20 metres. The underground space being open at present gives an interesting view. Much progress has been made, and anticipated opening date is around 2030.



Our websites: www.railfuture.org.uk | www.railfuture.org.uk/London-Metro | www.railwatch.org.uk
follow us on X/Twitter: [@Railfuture](https://twitter.com/Railfuture) | [@RailfutureLSE](https://twitter.com/RailfutureLSE) | [@Railwatch](https://twitter.com/Railwatch)

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