



13th December 2013

### **More good news on electrification**

Rail campaigners have given a warm welcome to news of further electrification of the network, with the Bolton to Wigan line announced today. "This is great news" said Bruce Williamson from the campaign group Railfuture "Passengers along this line can look forward to faster and more reliable trains, and with a little luck the reduced fuel and maintenance costs might eventually find their way through to ticket prices. It's because of this win-win that we've been consistently pushing for electrification across the network, and will continue to do so. It's heartening that more and more schemes seem to be announced and I think there's a growing realisation that investment in rail is good for business and for growth. We certainly support First Hull Trains in their proposal to have the Selby to Hull line electrified, and we're delighted that the government has set up a task force to accelerate electrification in the North. But we must remember that it's not just in the North where investment in electrification is needed. There are still significant gaps such as Ashford-Hastings and Corby-Syston which we will continue to push for, as well as major extensions such as Bristol-Exeter."

#### **Notes to editors:**

Railfuture is the UK's leading independent organisation campaigning for better rail services for both passengers and freight.

Railfuture's website can be found at: [www.railfuture.org.uk](http://www.railfuture.org.uk)

Follow Railfuture on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Railfuture>

For further information and comment please contact:

Bruce Williamson, media spokesman  
Tel: 0117 927 2954 Mobile: 07759 557389  
[media@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:media@railfuture.org.uk)