



12th May 2014

Mary Creagh MP meets rail campaigners

The Shadow Transport Secretary, Mary Creagh, addressed Railfuture's AGM in Sheffield at the weekend. Creagh, who is also the MP for Wakefield, delivered the keynote address outlining future Labour party strategy of creating a comprehensive and cohesive national transport network including strong support for HS2, albeit with 'no blank cheque'.

The event was chaired by Christian Wolmar, who is a leading rail author and President of Railfuture, and the Lord Mayor of Sheffield Councillor Vickie Priestley gave everyone a welcome to the city.

Christian said: "Railfuture has won some key battles in recent times, by persistent and intelligent campaigning. Even though politicians across the board now accept the vital role played by the railways, there is still a vital need for a campaigning organisation like Railfuture to put the case for rail and to push for improvements and reopenings"

Ian Brown CBE, formerly Managing Director of Transport for London – London Rail, was elected to the Board of Directors of Railfuture and has accepted the challenging portfolio of Director of Policy.

Four new Vice-Presidents were appointed; Martin Vickers, the Conservative MP for Cleethorpes, Tom Harris, the Labour MP for Glasgow South, Stewart Stevenson, the Scottish National Party MSP for Banffshire and Buchan Coast and Simon Thomas, Plaid Cymru AM for Mid and West Wales.

"Railfuture already has a distinguished slate of vice president s including former Secretary of State for Transport Lord Adonis, Lord Berkeley, Lord Deben, Dr Caroline Lucas MP, former railway managing directors Chris Green and Adrian Shooter and rail-industry experts Roger Ford and Barry Doe" said Christian "These latest appointments further broaden Railfuture's links, both politically and geographically. With such a powerful body of opinion on side, Railfuture can only go from strength to strength"

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

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

The board election results can be found at:
<http://www.railfuture.co.uk/elections/railfuture/board/2014/>

List of Railfuture Vice Presidents:
<http://www.railfuture.org.uk/Vice+Presidents>

For further information and comment please contact:

Bruce Williamson, media spokesman
Tel: 0117 927 2954 Mobile: 07759 557389
media@railfuture.org.uk