

please reply to:

Mike Southgate
Chair, Railfuture Wessex Branch
email mike.southgate@railfuture.org.uk

Ian Yeowart MCILT
Alliance Rail
Riverside Lodge
Naburn Lane
Fulford
York
YO19 4RB

17th February 2025

Dear Ian,

Open Access Bid Waterside to Southampton to Waterloo

Railfuture is Britain's leading independent campaigner for a bigger and better railway.

Railfuture Wessex welcomes the submission that Alliance Rail (Southern) has made to introduce an hourly service between Marchwood and Southampton with some trains being extended to London Waterloo. We believe this branch line will show the same success as other reopened lines across the UK. This service should provide new journey opportunities notably from Marchwood, Eastleigh and Hook. We believe extending choice should attract rail passengers currently using other forms of transport or who no longer use trains due to extended connections and poor service. Consistent two plus two seating, luggage stacks and catering provision should attract new leisure and business passengers to rail. There will be a clear environmental benefit using the proposed bi mode trains.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Southgate

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Chair, Wessex Branch.

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