



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

www.railfuture.org.uk

www.railfuturescotland.org.uk

www.railfuturewales.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE - 17 OCTOBER 2000

RESPONSIBLE RAIL REPORTING NEEDED AFTER RAIL ACCIDENT

Railfuture, the national campaign for better rail services, calls tonight for the media to be responsible in its reporting of the GNER inter-city train derailment at Hatfield in Hertfordshire at lunchtime today.

"If people are scared into using cars instead of taking the train, they will be more at risk from being injured or killed," said *Railfuture's* spokesperson. "*Railfuture* strongly urges the media to avoid exaggerating stories which may lead to this situation."

There are many more serious injuries and deaths per mile travelled on the roads than there are on the trains. Three and a half thousand people were killed or seriously injured on the UK's roads last year.

"At this time of rail expansion, when we have the chance to gain better services to tempt people out of their cars, it is imperative that media coverage is fair and accurate," demands *Railfuture*.

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, Tattingstone, 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

For more information please contact:

Bruce Williamson (Media Spokesman)

Tel: 0117 927 2954 Mobile: 07759 557389

E-mail: media@railfuture.org.uk

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

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