



# Railfuture Wessex Branch Update

**John Friedberger**  
**Chair, Railfuture Wessex**

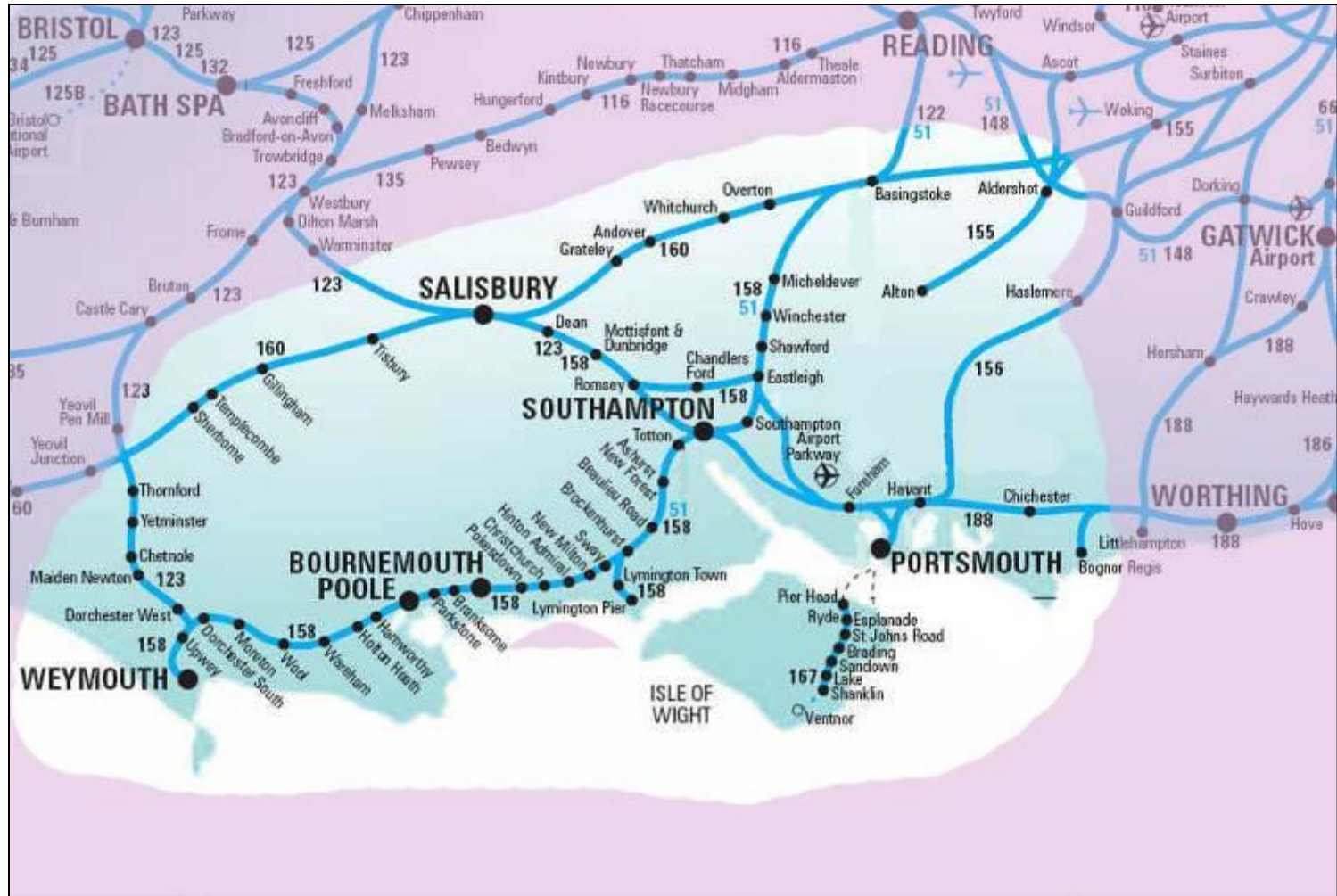
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[wessex@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:wessex@railfuture.org.uk)  
[www.railfuture.org.uk/branches](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/branches)  
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# The Wessex Area



# I. Wessex mainline to Hampshire and Dorset Coast

Short term	Better late night services. Strengthen peak services, possibly by reintroducing Wessex Electrics (cl442). Complete disabled access lifts / bridge at Southampton Airport. Maintain rail link to Weymouth Quay
Medium term	Link Swanage to mainline at Wareham. Double track Moreton to Dorchester South. Freight line bypass at Basingstoke station. Redevelop Poole station. Reintroduce passenger service to Poole Quay line.
Long term	Redesign and combine two stations at Dorchester with a chord to permit through Bournemouth - Yeovil services.

# II. Waterloo to Exeter (and beyond) via Salisbury

Short term	Continue to strengthen trains which suffer overcrowding. Passing loop at Axminster.
Medium term	New rolling-stock for longer distance trains (Exeter and beyond). Develop Salisbury as a hub / Interchange. New station at Wilton.
Long term	Double track throughout Salisbury - Exeter. Chord at Yeovil to permit through Bournemouth - Exeter services. New station at Porton.

### III. Waterloo to Portsmouth via Guildford

Short term	Reintroduce intercity regional rolling stock (No class 450 suburban trains beyond Haslemere). Make use of freight siding at Fratton.
Medium term	Incremental infrastructure improvements to reduce overall journey times and speed up services. Airtrack: Support for Guildford - Woking - Heathrow direct service.
Long term	Redevelop Portsmouth Harbour station.

## IV. Alton Line

Short term	Speed up services by deleting stops between Woking and Clapham Junction / Waterloo.
Medium term	Double-track Farnham to Alton and reduce journey times (< one hour to Waterloo).
Long term	Direct rail services to Heathrow and East London (Airtrack / Crossrail)

## V. Island Line

Short term	Maintain support for the Isle of Wight Community Rail Partnership.
Medium term	New rolling stock.
Long term	Extend to Newport (in conjunction with IOW Steam Railway) & Ventnor.

## VI. South Coast and Local

Short term	Review services in light of "Southern" timetable introduced in Dec 2007 and further develop.
Medium term	Develop a station at Ampress to serve Lymington Hospital and supermarket(s). Reopen passenger line to Marchwood. Increase frequency Weymouth-Bristol and increase capacity at busy periods
Long term	Reintroduce a rail service to Gosport (successor to SHRT?). Express service along South Coast to Ashford International and Eurostar. Double-tracking of Botley-Fareham.

## VII. Portsmouth to Cardiff (via Salisbury and Bristol)

Short term	Maintain support for Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership. Improve rolling stock (FGW) to reduce overcrowding and increase passenger comfort. Reintroduce a service from Southampton to Swindon (or Chippenham) via Melksham and increase frequency of Salisbury - Bristol service.
Medium term	Develop Salisbury as a hub / interchange. Further develop potential by a chord at Eastleigh to permit faster inter-regional service via Southampton Airport.
Long term	



## VIII. Cross-Country

Short term	Reintroduce Poole as terminus for most services. Reintroduce a timetable which includes services from NW, NE and Scotland WITHOUT the need for change at Birmingham. ATOC to reintroduce the 'blue' national ' High Speed Train and Sleeper Guide' (scrapped 2003).
Medium term	Reintroduce services to Brighton via Gatwick Airport. Introduce service to Ashford International.
Long term	

## IX. General issues

Short term	Fares. Ticket office opening hours. Closure of Travel Centres. Car Parks at stations. Stations: security and maintenance. Information. Better integration of trains / buses and more rail link buses e.g. Hythe-Southampton, Waterloo-Petersfield (now operational), Whiteley-Swanwick.
Medium term	Better coordination between operators. Increase capacity to meet FORECAST passenger demands.
Long term	Further electrification? Run a genuine 7-day railway.

# Section 17 Consultation

## SWT Booking Offices changes to opening times

14 July 2008 – Notices will be posted at affected stations.

4 Aug 2008 – Consultation closes.

Responses to be collated by Passenger Focus who will make representations to SWT and the DfT.

Please be ready to submit comments in a timely fashion!  
You have only 21 days to submit comments!

Note: Travel Centre closures are a separate issue.