



9th May 2013

Good news on Lewes - Uckfield rail scheme

Rail campaigners have welcomed news that the government has asked Network Rail to look again at the Lewes - Uckfield scheme.

"This is great news, as its something we've been supporting for some time" said Chris Page of Railfuture. "We've been working with local stakeholders, including East Sussex County Council, to progress plans for a transport hub at Uckfield and protect the route so it can be reopened"

"We feel there is a strong long-term case for a second main line to Brighton, but our experience is that other rail developments have happened incrementally, so we have to take one step at a time. Our proposals must fit in with Network Rail plans."
Railfuture recently engaged a firm of consultants, JRC, to research travel needs in Sussex. "We've put our money where our mouth is on this one. This work will help form the business case for reopening this stretch of line, as part of a partnership with key players, so that we can move towards a viable, realistic solution. We want not just a better railway for passengers, but to promote growth in the local economy as well."

Notes to editors:

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

Further information about the Uckfield-Lewes scheme can be found at:
www.railfuture.org.uk/Uckfield+Lewes

The governemnt's announcement today can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lewes-uckfield-rail-route-to-be-re-examined>

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