

The **monthly** branch newsletter of **railfuture** in London and the South East

Britain's leading *independent* campaign for a bigger better railway for passengers and freight

What a difference one month makes!



[COVID-19 briefing to Railfuture members](#)



The Railfuture *Rail Network Announcements Pipeline* (RNAP) saw just one of last month's four awaited DfT decisions, [continuing two incumbents' operations](#) from 1st April. [Southeastern](#) will continue to be operated by Govia, and [Great Western Railway](#) by FirstGroup.

Three Decisions for Transport remain outstanding:

- ~ the Williams Rail Review
- ~ the Fares and Ticketing Review
- ~ GTR's Passenger Benefit Fund results.

Happy railway birthdays in April:

~ Tuesday 27 April 2010 marked the first step towards the conclusion of a double decade of campaigning for the East London Line Extensions. A one month long 'preview service' ran between the four new stations at Dalston Junction, Haggerston, Hoxton, and Shoreditch High Street and New Cross / New Cross Gate. Joint usage has multiplied four-fold, from 5.4 to 22.1 million.



East London line to the left, Broad Street viaduct to the right

Our vision for rail: A railway system that provides services which travellers and freight forwarders want to use, and which offers more journey opportunities to more people and more freight.

What have we been doing out there?

Since the early-March edition no.21 of *inter-railse* Railfuture in London and the South East has:-



HRRUA business lunch in Rye (see below).

Front left Sally-Ann Hart, MP for Hastings & Rye; front right Paul Harwood, Regional Investment Director, Network Rail.

~ as one of six rail groups in the Railfuture RUG Award winning **Hastings & Rother Rail Users Alliance**, taken part in the [stakeholder event](#) on 28 February.

~ responded to **Network Rail's** consultation on the planned new [Cambridge South station](#) which closed on Monday 2 March.

~ responded to **Mole Valley District Council's** consultation on its "Future Mole Valley", the [draft Local Plan 2018-33](#) which closed on Monday 23 March.



~ held our first virtual Divisional meeting, successfully, on Saturday 28 March, for Herts & Beds discussions which centred on the draft Hertfordshire Rail Strategy.

~ responded to **Hertfordshire County Council's** consultation on its [draft Rail Strategy](#) which closed on Monday 30 March.

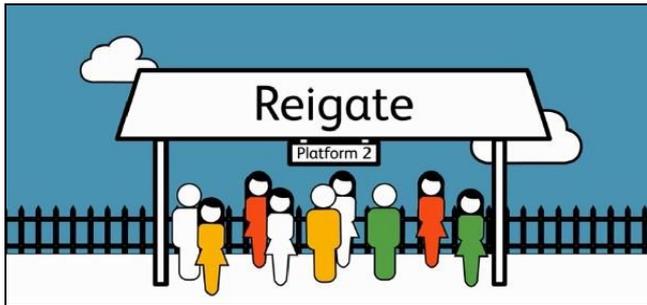
~ participated in **Transport for the South East's** meeting of its Transport Forum on Tuesday 31 March, which considered reports of the consultation on, and proposed amendments to, the [draft Transport Strategy](#).

What shall we be doing (out there)?

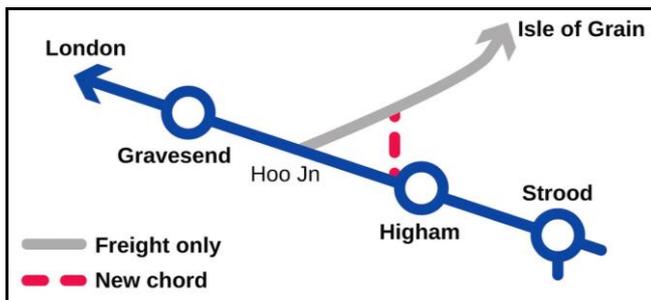
Modus operandi shift, that's what! Herts & Beds Division have done it, Transport for the South East's Transport Forum have done it, Sussex & Coastway Division officers and L&SE branch committee will be doing it. Working from home is the new normal.

Opportunities for influence continue, for example through our responses to consultations. Those relevant to London & South East regional branch are in the [branch web page](#), others are in 'Rail dates', and all responses can be viewed / downloaded in the [library](#).

Network Rail's consultation on "Connecting Reigate to Thameslink", the planned [Reigate station upgrade](#) closes on Monday 6 April.



Medway Council's consultation on "[Planning for growth on the Hoo Peninsula](#)" closes Friday 17 April.



Department for Transport's consultation on [Closure of Newhaven Marine station](#) closes on Sunday 19 April.

We **ask our audience**, you as our members! **Your comments** to roger.blake@railfuture.org.uk who will forward them to whoever is leading on our response.

Our vision for Railfuture: An independent organisation whose views are respected by the rail industry, to which decision makers come for advice, and which rail users are proud to join and recommend.

This branch e-newsletter is free, published monthly and distributed to branch members with their GDPR consent. Items for our newsletters, and our branch Local Action column in *railwatch*, to londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk

railfuture

Railfuture's mission: to be the number one advocate for Britain's railway and rail users

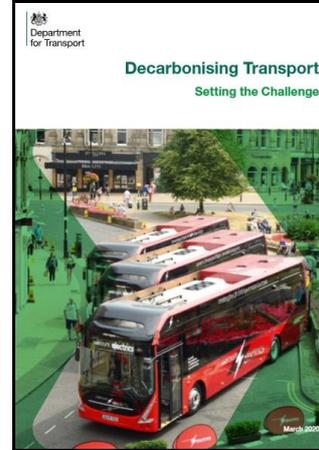
Website: [Welcome to Railfuture](#) Twitter: [@RailfutureLSE](#)

Railfuture Limited is a not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England & Wales no.05011634.
Registered Office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset, BS21 7NP
(for legal correspondence only). All other correspondence to: 24 Chedworth Place, Tattingstone, Suffolk IP9 2ND

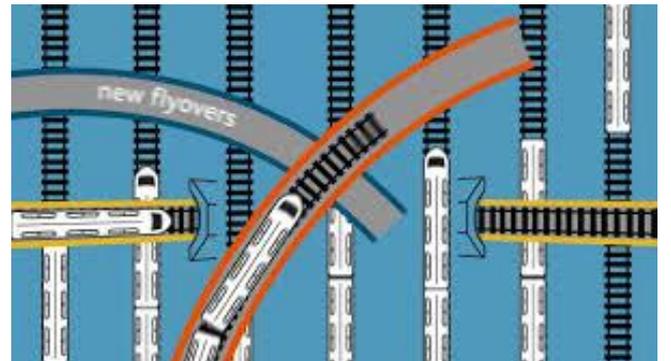
Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Saturday 25 April Railfuture London and South East regional branch AGM. CANCELLED.

Spring 2020 "Decarbonising Transport" – the DfT has given advance notice of its [Transport Decarbonisation Plan](#) due to be published 'later in 2020'. Meanwhile, to receive regular updates email TDP@dft.gov.uk



June 2020 "Unblocking the Croydon bottleneck" – Network Rail have given advance notice of the second round of public consultation on the [Croydon Area Remodelling Scheme](#).



Saturday 27 June Railfuture national AGM, and presentations of RUG Awards and of Railfuture Campaigner of the Year 2020 award. CANCELLED.

Saturday 3 October Railfuture national conference, Leeds. CANCELLED AS A PHYSICAL EVENT.

Full details in our [Events](#) and [Rail dates](#) web pages.