

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

Cooksbridge strikes gold!

In Railfuture's revived [Rail User Group Awards](#) (last run in 2018) presented in Bristol on Saturday 16 July,



after the national AGM, the Gold Award for Best Campaign went to [Cooksbridge Station Partnership](#) (formerly the Cooksbridge Area Rail Action Group).



Robert Baughan (r) accepted the framed certificate from Railfuture Director Stewart Palmer, co-ordinating member of the judging panel of seven Vice-Presidents.



Lewes RUG commended



In Best New Group category, [Lewes Rail Users Group](#) picked up a Commendation.

Britain's Growing Railway in London and the South East: happy birthday in August

~ on the 12th (after a 'soft opening' to passengers on 25th July) the official opening of London Overground's Hackney Interchange walkway, in 2015.



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 shall we be doing this month?

~ promoting Railfuture's new [Competition 2022](#):



with closing date for initial ideas by Friday 12th August.

~ by invitation, presenting our distinctive growth-based approach to a new rail link between Brighton via Lewes to Uckfield and beyond, and latest developments in our "Bridge the gap" campaign, to Lewes Town Council's Planning Committee.



- ~ holding a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.
- ~ responding to another application for outline planning permission for new housing in Ringmer, Lewes.

Coronavirus insight

Confidence about feeling safe when using trains, in relation to Covid-19, has dipped slightly to 88% of rail users, and markedly to only 68% among non-rail users who would feel safe if they had to make a train journey. Source: Transport Focus weekly [Tracking Research](#).

What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the July edition of *inter-railse* no.49, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members have, amongst various other activities:

~ participated in the official opening of a second access to Hackney Central station (top) and (below) an



extra footbridge staircase facing Hackney Interchange.



~ contributed to the AGM and Steering Group meeting of the Southeast CRP's North Downs Line.

~ participated in the conference launching Transport for the South East's draft Strategic Investment Plan.

~ participated in an invitation-only Parliamentary Reception by South East Councils hosted by Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the South East Sally-Ann Hart, MP for Hastings & Rye.

~ participated in an alternate-monthly **online** meeting of the Brighton Transport Partnership.

~ participated in a seminar organised by Transport for New Homes.

~ run our regular "Bridge the gap" campaign stall at the annual Uckfield Festival's 'Big Day.'

~ contributed to an alternate-monthly meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee.

~ enjoyed the opening day of London Overground services extended to new Barking Riverside station.

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](#)

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~ held regular **online** meetings of our Eastern and Herts & Beds Divisions.

~ hosted an **online** tri-branch meeting with TfSE guest speaker to discuss the draft Strategic Investment Plan.

~ held a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.

Also during July, regional branch committee has:

~ submitted comments to the Planning Inspectorate, additional to our objection to Lewes District Council, on an appeal against the non-determination by Lewes District Council of an application for outline planning permission for up to 100 homes in a key gap site between Ringmer and Broyle Side, East Sussex.

All Railfuture submissions can be found [here](#)

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

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Thursday 11 August Herts & Beds Division evening meeting, **online**. [Invite non-members!](#)

Saturday 20 August Kent Division afternoon meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Thursday 25 August Office of Rail & Road publishes Rail emissions for 2021/22 - annual statistics covering electricity and diesel consumption of mainline passenger and freight operators in Great Britain and estimates of their associated CO2e emissions.

Friday 26 August Copy date for your campaign news / reports for the London & South East regional branch Local Action column in October's *railwatch* no.173, and for September's *raise* no.157.
Send to londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk

Monday 29 August Copy date for your campaign news, letters, articles, photos to appear in October's *railwatch* no.173. Send to editor@railwatch.org.uk

Monday 12 September Close of Transport for the South East's consultation on their draft Strategic Investment Plan.

Thursday 15 September "Turning point for the railways." Railfuture national conference, in Leeds.

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