

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

London Metro Rail Manifesto for GLA

Our Rail Manifesto for London, published in March, is available at <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/London-Metro>

A Rail Manifesto for London Elections 2024

London's public transport is an essential component of a vibrant, efficient and effective city. It allows everyone to move around easily and quickly and, together with active travel, it reduces car use, with the associated issues of pollution, inefficient use of road space and cost to the user.

We call for 10 tasks to deliver better transport for London:

- 1 A unified rail system under the direction of its Mayor
- 2 Four trains per hour minimum service
- 3 Discrepancies in service quality north and south of the Thames resolved
- 4 A system that is better maintained, with newer trains
- 5 Fares that are fair for everyone (not just digitally savvy users with bank cards)
- 6 Ticketing that is simple and user friendly (maintain Travelcards & Oyster and link Railcards to bankcards)
- 7 A system that is free of 'access discrimination'
- 8 Stations with adequate facilities and staff, that are safe!
- 9 Planned improvements actioned (West London orbital, Bakerloo line extension, DLR to Thamesmead)
- 10 Longer term infrastructure projects initiated (Elizabeth Line and Croydon tram extensions, Crossrail 2 & 3)

London rail services need to be **FREQUENT, RELIABLE, PUNCTUAL, AFFORDABLE and ACCESSIBLE**

Rail travel is the best form of transport in urban areas, particularly so in London: Rail is **FAST, SAFE, and ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY**

The needs of London's rail passengers must be met

Investment in London's rail services must be maintained and enhanced

Use of London's rail services should be encouraged as a priority

London's complex transportation needs means investment in rail is imperative: London's rail services need to be **SUSTAINABLE and FIT FOR FUTURE NEEDS**

Learn about the tasks we have set in more detail: www.railfuture.org.uk/London-Metro

Campaigning for a bigger, better, railway Join us today railfuture.org.uk/join

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What shall we be doing this month?

London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, will be:-

~ holding regular meetings of Eastern and Herts & Beds Divisions **online** and Kent (during Faversham Festival of Transport) and London Metro Division (Alan Baxter Gallery, 75 Cowcross Street, Farringdon) in-person.

~ holding a regular **online** meeting of L&SE regional branch's committee.

~ finalising our response to Wealden District Council's consultation on its [draft Local Plan](#), closing on 10 May.

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.

Britain's Growing Railway in London and the South East: May birthdays

- ~ 12th, in 1980 - Hackney Central, Hackney Wick and Moulsecoomb stations.
- ~ 12th, in 1986 - passenger services resume between Kensington Olympia and WCML via Willesden.
- ~ 13th, in 1985 - Homerton station.
- ~ 14th, in 1979 - passenger services resume between Camden Road and Stratford, to/from North Woolwich.
- ~ 14th, in 1979 - West Ham Low Level station.
- ~ 14th, in 1984 - Bedford St. Johns station.
- ~ 15th, in 2016 - Lea Bridge station.
- ~ 16th, in 1988 - through passenger services resume between Farringdon and Blackfriars stations.
- ~ 17th, in 1982 - Watton-at-Stone station.
- ~ 17th, in 1983 - Dalston Kingsland station.
- ~ 23rd, in 2010 - New Cross Gate Down Junction, for through Overground services between Dalston Junction and Crystal Palace / West Croydon stations.
- ~ 24th, in 2022 - Elizabeth Line's Abbey Wood, Canary Wharf, Custom House, Farringdon, Liverpool Street, Paddington, Tottenham Court Road, Whitechapel, Woolwich stations.
- ~ 25th, in 1998 - Heathrow Central and Heathrow T4 stations, and the link from Airport Junction.
- ~ 29th, in 1990 - St Paul's, now City, Thameslink station.
- ~ 29th, in 1994 - Mitre Bridge Curve (WLL<>NLL) and Sheepcote Lane Curve (SWML <> WLL).
- ~ 30th, in 1995 - Chafford Hundred station.
- ~ 30th, in 1999 - West Ham High Level station and West Brompton station mainline platforms.
- ~ 31st, in 1994 - passenger services resume between Kensington Olympia <> Willesden Junction High Level.

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 has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-April edition of *inter-railse* no.70, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, have:

~ participated in a Southeastern Stakeholder Forum, a Transport for the South East Transport Forum, and a Greater Anglia Rail User Group Forum, all in-person.

~ participated in a Southeast CRP North Downs Line / Surrey Hills National Landscape launch at Chilworth station of a new promotional poster by local artist Diana Croft, part of the 'Surrey Hills is better by rail' [Rail to Ramble](#) campaign.

~ held our [annual open meeting](#) with guest speakers, followed by our members-only regional branch AGM.

~ held regular meetings of our Herts & Beds and Sussex & Coastway Divisions, both in-person.

~ held a regular **online** meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee.

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Saturday 4 May - Monday 6 May “Be in the know before you go!” – check [Bank Holiday alterations](#).



Tuesday - Friday 7-10 May Community conversation information-only events about Development Consent Order processes for East West Rail - in Bedford, Oxford, Bicester, and Cambourne.

Wednesday 8 May Eastern Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Thursday 16 May London Metro Division evening meeting, in-person as previous meetings; then on third Thursday of odd-numbered months in the year. Focus on [Rail User Groups](#) in London, including reviving a Lewisham station RUG. [Invite non-members!](#)



Saturday 18 / Sunday 19 May Railfuture L&SE regional branch and Kent Division campaigns stall at the Faversham Festival of Transport.



Monday - Friday 20-24 May Community conversation information-only events about Development Consent Order processes for East West Rail - in Roxton, Cambridge, Comberton, Bletchley, Marston Moretaine.



Monday 20 - Sunday 26 May #MoreThanARailway - national [Community Rail Week](#).

Saturday 25 May – Monday 27 May “Be in the know before you go!” – check [Bank Holiday alterations](#).

Wednesday 29 May Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Thursday 30 May ORR publishes Passenger rail performance Q4 2023/24 (January-March 2024) - Public Performance Measure (PPM), Cancelled and Significantly Late (CaSL).



Sunday 2 June “[Bridge the gap](#)” campaign stall at Uckfield & District Lions Club Family Fun Day, Uckfield.

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

Railfuture is ‘in the news’ / ‘making the news’ / sharing ‘news and views’

~ Stay abreast of Railfuture members making, not just watching, things happen in our website [media extracts](#).

~ Stay abreast of Railfuture making, not just reporting, the news through our [press releases](#).

~ Stay abreast of Railfuture’s and others’ reports and thoughts published in our [website articles](#).

~ Railfuture is active on [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [LinkedIn](#).

Be in it to win it - join Railfuture’s Lottery!

Members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – can support Railfuture by joining our monthly [lottery](#).

Railfuture publications by email

~ All members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – are being encouraged to receive [Railwatch](#) direct to their Inbox immediately on publication by logging-in at [Member services](#).

~ All members receive Railfuture’s regular monthly newsletter [Rail User Express](#) and occasional [Rail Action](#) bulletin direct to their Inbox immediately on publication.

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

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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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