

East Suffolk Lines – summary of responses to DfT consultation.

We invited views on our proposal to designate the two East Suffolk Lines (Ipswich to Lowestoft and Ipswich to Felixstowe) as community rail services. The public consultation ran for six weeks from 25 July to 5 September 2014 and details were made available on the DfT website at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/east-suffolk-lines-community-rail-designation

Next Steps

Following consideration of the replies, Ministers decided to designate the two East Suffolk Lines as community rail services.

Replies and responses

We invited the following rail organisations to respond: Abellio Greater Anglia, DB Schenker, Direct Rail Services, Freightliner Ltd, GB Railfreight Ltd, Network Rail, Office of Rail Regulation, Passenger Focus.

We also invited the following non rail organisations to respond: Association of Community Rail Partnerships, East Suffolk Lines Community Rail Partnership, East Suffolk Travellers Association, Felixstowe Travel Watch, Ipswich Borough Council, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, Port of Felixstowe, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and 82 or so town/parish councils in the vicinity.

Additionally as this was a public consultation individuals were able to respond.

We received 37 responses from the following: Association of Community Rail Partnerships, DB Schenker, East Suffolk Travellers Association, EDF Energy Nuclear New Build, Felixstowe Travel Watch, Freightliner Ltd, Abellio Greater Anglia, GB Railfreight Ltd, Ipswich Borough Council, Network Rail, Passenger Focus, Port of Felixstowe (Hutchison Ports), Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk County Council, Waveney District Council, Bob Kindred Heritage Consultants, Beccles North - Green Councillor, Beccles Town Council, Campsea Ash Parish Council, Felixstowe Town Council, Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council, Levington & Stratton Hale Parish Council, Martlesham Parish Council, Melton Parish Council, Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council, Rendlesham Parish Council, Saxmundham Town Council, Sutton Heath Parish, Swiland and Witnesham Parish Council, Trimley St Martins Parish Council, Trimley St Mary Parish Council, Tunstall Parish Council, Westerfield Parish Council, Wickham Market Parish Council and 3 public responses.

No objections were received with many of the responses being very supportive of the proposal.