



## RAILWAYS ACT 2005

### PROPOSAL BY OPERATOR TO CLOSE ROCHESTER STATION

Network Rail has notified the Department for Transport that it proposes to close the existing Rochester station upon successful commissioning of a new station serving the town.

Under section 29(7)(a) of the Railways Act 2005, the Secretary of State, as the relevant railway funding authority, is required to carry out a consultation concerning any proposal to discontinue the use of a station.

This notice is made in compliance with the statutory requirements in Schedule 7 to the Railways Act 2005 and relates to the closure of the following station:

- **Rochester station, which is situated between Chatham station and Rochester Bridge Junction.**

A new station is currently under construction approximately 500 metres to the north-west of the existing station site. On commissioning, services that currently stop at the existing Rochester station will stop at the new station. Following the Railways Closures Guidance 2006, Network Rail, as network operator, has carried out an initial assessment of whether retaining the existing station as part of the national rail network represents value for money. Network Rail concluded that it is neither an appropriate nor a responsible use of resources. It is proposed that, subject to successful completion of the closure process, the existing station will be closed when the new station is commissioned, on or after 1 December 2015.

Anyone wishing to see Network Rail's initial assessment, and a summary of it, may view the consultation document on the Department for Transport's website at [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open)

The consultation document may also be inspected at the Department for Transport's offices at Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR. Alternatively, copies can be obtained from Simon Feast at the same address or by email from [Rochesterstation.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Rochesterstation.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

Copies will be provided free of charge.

Representations about the proposal should be sent to:

[Rochesterstation.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Rochesterstation.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

or Rochester Station Consultation, Department for Transport, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR

no later than 08 May 2015.