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Dear Colleague

London and South East RUS

I'm writing to provide you with a brief update about the London and South East RUS.

Initial work on the project started last summer when, together with Network Rail and London Travel Watch, we convened a meeting for rail user groups to feed in their views on the scope of the RUS and the priority issues it should address.

Notes of the discussion at that meeting and the transcripts of the flip chart notes from breakout groups are attached for information. These documents and the original delegate briefing for the event can also be found on our website: www.passengerfocus.org.uk

An industry steering group has been established, including representation from Passenger Focus and London Travel Watch. This met for the first time in October and reviewed the scope of the project and the gaps that needed to be addressed.

It was also agreed that three working groups would be established to take forward detailed work on Central London, South Hampshire and Freight issues. Passenger Focus is participating in the first two of these.

The Central London and South Hampshire groups have recently both met for the first time. The Central London group considered some initial baseline data for central London arrivals and discussed how longer-term scenarios of demand and capacity would be produced. Network Rail is now undertaking further work before the group meets again in early spring.

The South Hampshire group will oversee the workstreams and the development of options to bridge the strategic gaps identified within the Solent and South Hampshire areas. At the first meeting in January Passenger Demand baseline data was presented and an assessment of the gaps for consideration was made. This will include a high level assessment of journey times on the Portsmouth direct route. Network Rail will now consider potential options to bridge the gaps before the group meets again.



Network Rail has now set up a webpage for the London and South East RUS on their website (www.networkrail.co.uk) where published documents will be posted. It can be found by clicking on Route Utilisation Strategies and then second generation RUSs.

There is still a substantial amount of work to be done before a draft strategy is prepared for consultation later in the year. We anticipate a further meeting for Rail User groups during the consultation.

Best wishes

Sharon Hedges
Passenger Link Manager