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Sent: 30 August 2013 4:41 PM

To: Consultation on draft determination (ORR)

Cc: Cannon, Steve (Environmental Services)

Subject: Derbyshire County Council Response to ORR Draft Determination of NR Strategic Business Plan - 30082013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for giving Derbyshire County Council the opportunity to respond to your Draft Determination of Network Rail's Outputs and Funding for 2014-19. This response may be placed on ORR's website.

Overall, we believe that the draft determination provides a balanced and achievable outcome for the next Control Period. In particular we would like to comment on the following aspects:

1] We support the plans for further electrification of the network and, in particular, the Electric Spine proposals for the Midland Main Line [MML] and improvements to the layout at Derby Station. We also wish to support the case for the proposals to remove the bottleneck at Market Harborough Station by straightening the route and providing a freight loop, and would ask ORR to authorise the extra funding needed to achieve these improvements.

2] We wish to see the MML diversionary routes via Alfreton and Corby electrified as well, so that diesel traction or a transfer to buses is not needed to cover for diversions either planned or in emergencies.

2] We would ask for the 7 miles of single track from Ambergate-Matlock to be added to the MML scheme, in order that the whole Nottingham-Matlock service could be converted to electric operation, saving 4 diesel trains, and with significant improved journey times for passengers, on a route where patronage has doubled in the last 4 years. We would endeavour to assist Network Rail to reduce the cost of electrification to a minimum, similar to the recent successful Paisley Canal scheme.

4] We support the Northern Hub proposals, and particularly the work in Manchester and on the Hope Valley route between Manchester and Sheffield to relieve the current capacity issues for both passenger and freight services, which have restricted current demand.

5] We support the Rail Freight Group response on rail freight issues. We specifically support the proposals for the Strategic Freight Network and the planned improvements to the Derby-Stoke route, to tie in with other proposals to provide local strategic intermodal freight terminals and thereby supporting the local economy and jobs.

6] We wish to see some funding specifically allocated to try and address the problems caused by suicides on the railway to bolster the existing excellent work being done by the

industry. This would cover everything from dealing with vulnerable people before they become potential victims, staff training, and outside bodies. We feel that this can make a considerable improvement both for the lives of potential victims and staff, as well as reducing the considerable delays to trains and passengers when a tragic incident occurs.

Yours faithfully

Kevin Williams

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