

21 September 2017

Local residents urged to have their say on Maritime Line (Truro – Falmouth) rail services

Local residents are being encouraged to have their say on rail services to help with planning the future development of the Maritime Line, the railway which links Truro, Penryn and Falmouth.

As well as current rail users, organisers are keen to hear from those who rarely, if ever, use the trains.

People are being asked to complete an online survey available at www.maritimelinesurvey.com. For those without access to a computer, hard copies of the survey are also available at Falmouth Information Service (in the old Post Office on The Moor), Penryn library and Truro station.

The survey results will feed into the work of the Maritime Line Forum which includes representatives of Cornwall Council, Great Western Railway, Network Rail, Falmouth and Penryn Town Councils and the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership.

The Maritime Line has seen a huge increase in the number of people using it over the last few years, particularly thanks to a Cornwall Council led scheme which saw a passing loop at Penryn station open and the branch line train service double in 2009.

In the last full year before the loop opened, 2008, the number of journeys made on the line was 293,026. By 2012, the number had more than doubled to 613,058 journeys and the usage has continued to rise, with 664,227 journeys made in 2016.

Dan Okey, Regional Development Manager (West) for Great Western Railway, said "Great Western Railway is proud to support the communities we serve. The Truro – Falmouth line has been a huge success over the last ten to fifteen years, particularly thanks to Cornwall Council and the Penryn passing loop. The results of this survey will help us in determining what should be the next steps for the line."

Richard Burningham, Manager of the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership, which works to promote the Maritime Line and other branch lines across the two counties, said "I hope we get a lot of people taking part in the survey. We're looking to get a very good range of views and people taking just a few minutes to complete the survey will be a big help in planning the future development of the Maritime Line."

ENDS

Press release issued by the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership, School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Science, Plymouth University, Plymouth, PL4 8AA. 01752 584777.