

Response to the Great western franchise announcement by the Peninsula Rail Task Force

Chair of the Peninsula Rail Task Force, Councillor Andrew Leadbetter said: "We welcome the announcement today by Government to award the Great Western contract to First Great Western. This provides vital continuity and helpful certainty for the next four years. We recognise the value and importance of maintaining our strong partnership to keep Government to their pledge to improve our rail networks. First Great Western is a key partner in our task force, and we are pleased we can continue our joint approach."

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NOTES TO NEWS EDITORS:

The Peninsula Rail Task Force is a rail improvement campaign group comprising Cornwall Council, Cornwall and Scillies LEP, Devon County Council, Heart of the South West LEP, Plymouth City Council, Somerset County Council and Torbay Council.

For more detail about our solutions please see the accompanying proposed programme of improvements. You can also find more information at: www.resiliencesouthwest.co.uk