

Improvements to Thetford Railway Station

Report of David Cumming, Team Leader Transport, Norfolk County Council

Summary

This report seeks board support to lobby Greater Anglia for improvements to Thetford Railway Station.

Recommendations

- (i) The board write to Greater Anglia requesting a meeting to discuss how improvements to Thetford Railway Station might be brought forward.

1. Introduction

We understand that Greater Anglia, as train operator, is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of stations within the franchise area, which would include Thetford Station. We also understand that one of the franchise commitments is to put funding towards station improvements, and there are also pots of government money available – on a bidding basis – that could be available to support the investment from the train operator (or match funding from other parties). Greater Anglia is responsible for prioritising which stations receive investment. They have in the past tended to do this on the basis of passenger numbers, which often means that priority is given to the busier commuting stations in the south of their franchise area.

2. Position of Norfolk County Council

Norfolk County Council supports improvements at Thetford, particularly to address the issue about crossing the line between platforms. The existing bridge is old and people with mobility issues, or luggage, can find it difficult if not impossible to get from one platform to the other except by a circuitous road-route.

3. Options

A direct approach to Greater Anglia is recommended as the best means of establishing whether they can invest into the station; and to understand the best means of doing this and how local stakeholders might be able to assist.

4. Contribution to Board Objectives

The activity will contribute to Objective 1 to improve infrastructure and Objective 6 to encourage economic vitality.

5. Recommendations

- (i) The board write to Greater Anglia requesting a meeting to discuss how improvements to Thetford Railway Station might be brought forward.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Name	Telephone Number	Email address
David Cumming	01603 224225	david.cumming@norfolk.gov.uk