

**1st February 2001**

## **Developing an Integrated Transport System: SRA Invests in West Wales Interchange**

SRA Invests in West Wales Interchange

The Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) today pledged £99,000 as part of its commitment to the railway in West Wales. The investment will improve passenger facilities and integration at Haverfordwest station in Dyfed.

The SRA is providing funding under the Rail Passenger Partnership scheme for a joint initiative between the Pembrokeshire County Council, Railtrack and train operator, Wales & West designed to help integrate road and rail transport at Haverfordwest station. The planned improvements include a revised layout to provide better access for buses integrated with train times, a joint shelter for passengers of both buses and trains, improved car parking, provision for taxis and secure covered cycle facilities.

The initiative will also provide for enhanced passenger services including through ticketing and improvements to the forecourt and signage at the station.

Awarding the funding, SRA Chief Executive, Mike Grant said:

"Since the Rail Passenger Partnership scheme was established last year, we have awarded over £18 million for 17 innovative initiatives encouraging new rail passengers. A further 23 schemes are currently under consideration with a potential spend of £52 million over three years.

"This initiative in West Wales creates the greater accessibility and improved interchange facilities for passengers, essential to developing an integrated transport system.

"We believe that such improvements will encourage more people off the roads, on to rail and, in the case of Haverfordwest, it is estimated that the improved facilities will increase patronage at the station by some 30 per cent.

"We look forward to receiving further bids of this kind from local authorities and train operators."

### **Note to Editors:**

1. The Rail Passenger Partnership scheme was announced in the Government's 1998 Integrated Transport White Paper and is an important building block in the SRA's strategy of attracting passengers to rail.

2. The bidding process for RPP was announced by the SRA in May 1999.
3. The SRA has now provided funding for a total of 17 schemes under its Rail Passenger Partnership, worth an overall figure of £18 million.
4. Haverfordwest is on the main line to Milford Haven and has through train services to Swansea, Cardiff, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester and Portsmouth.

**For further details contact the Department for Transport Rail Press desk:  
020 7944 3108**