

1st February 2001

SRA Provides £1.28 million Funding for New Station at Corsham

The Wiltshire town of Corsham, is to benefit from a new station, thanks to a substantial grant made under the SRA's Rail Passenger Partnership (RPP) scheme.

The grant of £1.28 million is added to funding from other stakeholders, namely North Wiltshire District Council (£720,000), Wiltshire County Council (£100,000) Corsham Town Council (£25,000), First Great Western (£40,000), and £252,000 from the private sector consortium promoting the nearby Pockeredge Farm housing development.

Corsham is situated between Chippenham and Bath and the 12 trains in each direction that run daily between Bristol and Oxford will serve the station. The station will include a manned ticket/retail kiosk, 120 space car park, secured cycle storage, CCTV and electronic information display. It will have full access for disabled passengers, including a ramped footbridge. It is expected to be operational with the start of the Summer 2002 timetable.

SRA Chief Executive Mike Grant said,

"I am delighted to announce another RPP scheme involving the co-operation of several stakeholders. This announcement has the potential to improve travel choices for thousands of people in the growing town of Corsham and its environs. In particular, many people will now be able to use the train for work or shopping in Bath and Bristol, taking pressure off the A4 and city centre parking."

North Wiltshire District Council Leader David Packham said,

"This is excellent news for Corsham. The District have fought long and hard for the station to re-open. This will make a valuable contribution to the regeneration and revitalisation of the town, for the benefit of the whole community."

Notes 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.

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