

# intouch

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## EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNING FOR LOCAL COMMUTERS

### MARK RECKLESS CAMPAIGNED FOR PEAK HOUR TRAINS TO STOP AT ROCHESTER...AND DELIVERED!

Last year Mark Reckless, the Conservative Parliamentary candidate for Rochester and Strood, met with Southeastern managers to discuss the impact of above inflation fare increases and changes to the timetable on Southeastern's Medway services. Working with the independent Fair's Fare for Medway campaign, Mark Reckless won a significant victory for local commuters when Southeastern finally agreed to introduce regular peak hour stopping services at Rochester station.

Previously Rochester and Strood commuters were forced to travel to Chatham station to catch the fast peak time services into London, but thanks to Mark's effective campaigning many



Mark Reckless with Fair's Fare for Medway campaigner Chris Irvine

hundreds of local commuters now find they have more time at home in the morning and in the evening.

**But there is still much to do. Fares are still too high and the new timetable isn't working for many. The campaign continues!**

## TAKE THE SURVEY OVERLEAF

**Mark Reckless is keen to hear your views on the service offered by Southeastern trains.** Despite receiving millions of pounds in subsidies from you, the taxpayer, Southeastern are still allowed to increase their regulated fares at inflation +3%. And the new timetable introduced in December to accommodate the HS1 service has proved very unpopular with regular commuters. What's your view? Let Mark know.



Have you benefited or lost out from the new High Speed rail service? Have your say!

## HOW MUCH WILL RAIL STRIKE COST YOU?

Mark Reckless is calling on members of the RMT and TSSA unions to reconsider their decision to press ahead with the national rail strike next week. At a time when many commuters and their families are already struggling to get through Labour's recession, the last thing people here in Medway need is aggressive union action that will prevent many from getting to their place of work. Many will find they have no option but to use precious holiday time they can ill afford or, worse still, be forced to take unpaid leave.

Once again, it's the hardworking taxpayers of this country who will be made to pay for Gordon Brown's weakness in the face of union militancy, and that simply isn't acceptable. **It's time for change.**

## PENALTY FARES UNFAIR ON HS1?

**Mark is currently looking at the issue of penalty fares issued to non-HS1 season ticket holders who have reported that the facility to purchase upgrades onboard the trains has been removed.** When the service began last December, Southeastern actively promoted the fact that regular season ticket holders could purchase their upgrades en route, but it appears this facility was removed at some point without any prior notification leaving many unsuspecting commuters facing unjustified penalty fare notices. If you have had this problem, let Mark know in box 8 overleaf, as he may be able to get you a refund.

# Local Commuters' Survey

Mark Reckless and local Conservatives are working hard to represent your interests, voice your concerns and, most importantly, get action for you. We are keen to hear your views on local rail services. Please take some time to fill out this survey and return it to us. To help the environment you can also take this survey online by visiting [www.markreckless.com](http://www.markreckless.com)

## Your details

Name
Address

### 1. From which station do you normally travel from? (Please tick all those which apply)

- Chatham                       Rochester  
 Strood

### 2. And which station do you normally travel to?

- Victoria                       Cannon Street  
 Charing Cross               St Pancras  
 Other (please specify) .....

### 3. Since the introduction of the new timetable in December do you think the service on Southeastern has;

- Got better     Got worse  
 Stayed about the same

### 4. Please use the box below to let Mark know how changes in the service have affected you;

### 5. Do you think fares on Southeastern trains are generally;

- Too high     Too low     About right

### 6. Do you use the High Speed service, and if so how frequently?

- Don't use it                       Use it occasionally  
 Use it frequently               I have an HS1 season ticket

### 7. And, for the price you pay, do you think the High Speed service provides value for money?

- Yes                                   No  
 Not sure

### 8. Please use the box below to let Mark know of any other issues you have with Southeastern trains;

### 9. How do you think you will be likely to vote at the general election?

- Labour  
 Conservative  
 Lib Dem  
 Other (please specify) .....

### 10. Please let us know if you can help with our work:

- I would like to join the local Conservatives  
 I can deliver leaflets  
 I can display a poster at election time  
 I would like a postal vote  
 I would like to make a donation  
 I may be able to help on election day



**When completed, please return this survey to the address below;**

**Mark Reckless**  
**200 Canterbury Street**  
**Gillingham**  
**ME7 5XG**

**Don't forget! You can also take this survey online at [www.markreckless.com](http://www.markreckless.com)**

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. We would like to keep in touch with you about the issues you have raised. If you are happy for us to do this by email and mobile phone, please complete your details below:*

Phone\*

Email\*

Data Protection Act: The information you supply us with will be treated by the Conservative Party in the strictest confidence in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and will not be passed on to any third party. From time to time we may contact you with further details of Party policy. We will not pass your personal details to third-parties without your consent. If you DO NOT wish to have your data stored by the Conservative Party, please mark a cross in this box . \*By giving us your email address and/or telephone number, you are agreeing to receive communications and information from us by email or SMS.