

Final Report on Members' survey on Bailey proposals

Members were invited, by email and via the Journal, to complete the survey by 31st December 2020. On 4th January 2021 the survey was removed from the WSRA website.

A total of 228 responses were received. The majority of these were responses to the email. Approximately 5% were submitted after the Journal article was published.

Responses were as follows:

Question – Do you agree that the current WSR structure is not working and needs to be changed?

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|-------------|-----|
| Yes – 213 | 94% |
| No – 3 | 1% |
| Unsure – 12 | 5% |

Question – Do you support the principle of a single over-arching charity, which would own the operating company and could offer a home to the current charities and special interest groups on the railway?

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Yes – 208 | 92% |
| No – 8 | 3% |
| Unsure – 12 | 5% |

Question – Should the proposed new charity be the railway's membership organisation?

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|-------------|-----|
| Yes – 190 | 84% |
| No – 9 | 3% |
| Unsure – 29 | 13% |

Question – Would you accept transfer of your WSRA membership to the proposed new charity, with the same conditions as WSR PLC share holders and others?

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|-------------|-----|
| Yes – 213 | 94% |
| No – 5 | 2% |
| Unsure – 10 | 4% |

There were also 58 submissions of views and questions, which were personally responded to by the WSRA chairman or vice chairman.

The results are overwhelmingly in favour of an over-arching charity that becomes the WSR's membership organisation. The 'unsure' responses are largely due to an expectation of more detail than is currently possible. Running through the responses is a strong indication of a desire for peace and harmony within a professional organisation, with appropriate checks and balances in place, and able to set strategy for the operating company. There is disquiet expressed about some personalities in all 3 of the key WSR organisations (but not the DEPG).

Jacquie Green
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