

## In The News: 12th August

August 12, 2020



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Transport for the North has today set out its initial plans for a £5 billion Northern Infrastructure Pipeline, a 30-year investment plan of infrastructure projects to underpin greener Northern growth.

The pipeline includes rail, road, active travel and smart ticketing proposals; some of which could be started over the next 6-18 months to help the economy 'build back better', and help create around 20,000 construction and design jobs.

Barry White, Chief Executive at Transport for the North, said the projects will help better connect communities, slash carbon emissions from transport in the north and support people in living healthier

lives.

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Train companies have called for a shakeup in transport tax policy to create a level playing field where levies reflect how damaging a mode of transport is to the environment.

They say this would enable Britain to build back better by encouraging a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under current arrangements, fuel for passenger aircraft is exempt from tax, whereas rail companies have seen levies on electricity to power trains more than double in the past four years.

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Scotland's transport links have been badly impacted by heavy rainfall during thunderstorms last night.

An article in The Scotsman says ScotRail has announced almost 200 cancellations to their services this morning, including express trains between Edinburgh and Glasgow, due to flooding and landslips on the line.

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Finally, and the multi-million Plymouth Railway Station redevelopment project is to begin.

The article in the Plymouth Herald says a public car park is to be turned into a construction compound ahead of the scheme.

The city council has given temporary permission for the change of use for the land as part of the £80 million project.

*Photo credit: Transport for the North*

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