

In The News | 13th July 2022 | Latest Rail News

July 13, 2022



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Network Rail has made workers a fresh pay offer in an attempt to break a deadlocked row with unions over pay, jobs and conditions.

An article on the BBC website says thousands of Network Rail workers took part in national strike action in June.

It said the offer was worth more than 5 per cent, but depended on workers accepting “modernising reforms”.

But the RMT union said the offer was a real-terms pay cut and would mean cutting a third of front-line maintenance roles.

All union members were being offered more than 5 per cent, and the lowest paid would be getting a more than 10 per cent pay rise, a spokesman told the BBC.

The RMT union said its executive committee would consider the offer on Wednesday.

Passengers have had their hand trapped in train doors and were then dragged along platforms, it is claimed.

An article in the Mirror said other cases of objects being left trapped in the doors as the train started off anyway have been investigated.

Three latest cases, including one where a person had their hand trapped, are being looked at by the Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB), the independent investigator into all serious railway safety incidents in the UK.

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Network Rail has today published an independent study by specialist infrastructure consultancy, Nichols, looking at how maintenance of infrastructure and key assets is carried out in other comparable industries in the UK and across Europe.

The study found that Network Rail lagged behind other industries – such as water, aviation, energy and roads – especially in the way it deploys its people.

Specifically, the report highlighted that improvements could be made, and major efficiencies unlocked, by introducing individual rostering, upskilling specialist and multi-skilled teams with broader knowledge, increasing and accelerating the use of technology.

HS2 has said more than a million tonnes of construction material have been delivered by rail to the high speed rail’s work sites across Buckinghamshire — the equivalent to removing 100,096 HGV journeys from local roads.

The major milestone was achieved over a year and a half, with 583 trains delivering aggregate to three locations around Calvert and Aylesbury. Moving this material by rail instead of by road is believed to have saved 11,399 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

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Photo credit: HS2 Ltd