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June 14, 2021



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A series of fresh rail strikes will be held in a dispute over guards' contracts.

The Evening Standard says members of the Rail, Maritime and Transport union on East Midlands Railway will walk out for eight days over the summer.

The union has accused the company of issuing inferior contracts to some train guards.

London North Eastern Railway (LNER) has begun an eight-week public consultation to seek views on its proposed significant timetable change and uplift from May 2022.

LNER's proposed new timetable builds on over a decade of planning and investment in LNER's new Azuma trains and Network Rail's modernisation of the East Coast's tracks.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Next month, railway engineers will be undertaking a two-week, round-the-clock improvement blitz between Manchester Victoria and Rochdale and Manchester Victoria and Stalybridge.

Improvements are planned from Saturday 31 July - Sunday 15 August as part of the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU). TRU is a multi-billion-pound programme of railway upgrades that will radically improve connectivity in the North of England - providing faster, more reliable services for passengers travelling between York, Leeds and Manchester.

Congratulations to four Network Rail employees who have been named in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, published on Friday.

Rajinder Pryor, John Sidebotham, Danny Hawkins and Simon Lloyd have been recognised for various pieces of work, including to support colleagues' mental health throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, vital charity work in local communities and promoting diversity across the rail industry.

Also recognised is British Transport Police's Chief Constable Lucy D'Orsi and Chief Superintendent Dennis Murray, who have both been awarded the Queen's Police Medal.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Photo credit: Network Rail