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The latest rail news on Monday, 18th January 2021

Eurostar is “on the brink of collapse” and could go bust within months if it is not given financial aid, the government has been warned.

That’s according to Kent Online, that says there are fears that the high-speed rail company, which runs lines through Ashford and Ebbsfleet, could fold as early as April after the damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

There are also concerns that a potential collapse could lead to increased rail fares for Kent residents on the same line to make up for lost funds.

Network Rail engineers are today kickstarting improvements to Portsmouth’s railways and the landmark Landport Viaduct.

From today until Sunday, January 24, the line from Portsmouth and Southsea to Portsmouth Harbour will close, with the closure extending to Cosham and Bedhampton on the 24th for a number of other improvements, including track renewals.

The main focus of the work will be vital maintenance on a Victorian viaduct at Portsmouth and Southsea station.

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Stadler and Rail Operations (UK) Limited have signed a framework agreement for the supply of thirty Class 93 tri-mode locomotives.

The advanced locomotives will significantly reduce CO2 emissions for both rail freight as well as potential passenger transport services.

Deliveries are expected to start in early 2023.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Finally, and Govia Thameslink Railway and the Samaritans are highlighting how taking the time to talk could be life-saving, on the day said to be the most difficult day of the year.

Replacing ‘Blue Monday’ with ‘Brew Monday’, the train firms of GTR – Great Northern, Southern and Thameslink – will be working with the Samaritans to encourage the public and colleagues to get together over a warming virtual cuppa.

GTR has also revealed that 60 railway colleagues have been recognised for their compassion and bravery for rescuing vulnerable people.

[Click here for more details.](#)

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