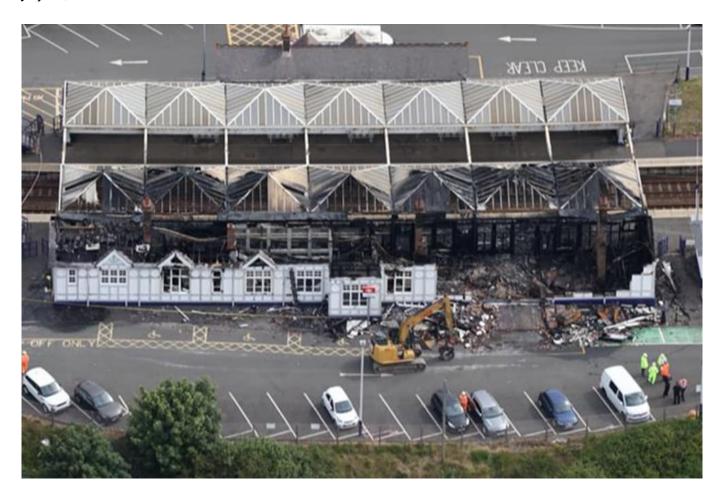


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July 19, 2021



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The latest rail news on Monday, 19th July 2021

Commuters were seen riding the Tube today without face coverings whilst others continued wearing them as 'Freedom Day' finally dawned and brought in a new confusing jumble of rules for their use.

The article features in the Mail Online, that says face masks are no longer required by law, although official national guidance is to continue wearing them in crowded public places.



They are still compulsory on the Tube thanks to a decision by London Mayor Sadiq Khan, who said he did not want to put transport users 'at risk' by allowing them to go unmasked.

Passengers can be thrown off services if they refuse to cooperate, although fines will no longer be issued, Transport for London has confirmed to the paper.

A fire at Troon railway station has been ruled as 'not deliberate' after causing devastating damage.

An article in The Daily Record says the blaze broke out on Saturday afternoon shortly before 1pm following reports that smoke was pouring from the busy transport hub.

Fire crews tackled the fierce flames – which also destroyed a family-run kiosk – overnight and were in attendance yesterday.

Light rail operators across England will benefit from up to £56 million in government funding to help ensure they continue to run vital services as coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

The funding will run from 20 July to April 2022, and will support operators across the north and the Midlands, including Tyne and Wear Metro and Manchester Metrolink.

Transport Minister Baroness Vere says the funding package will allow operators to keep running these vital services as normal as restrictions are lifted and passengers begin to return in higher numbers.

HS2 has today revealed that its designers are on track to more than halve the amount of embedded carbon in one of the high speed rail project's viaducts.

The innovative 'double composite' approach – which involves two steel girders sandwiched between two layers of reinforced concrete to create a super strong but light weight span – will be used on the Wendover Dean Viaduct in Buckinghamshire.

Photo credit: Network Rail