

# In The News | 24th February 2021 | Latest Rail News

February 24, 2021



[Click here to listen to the latest rail news on Wednesday, 24th February 2021](#)

---

The latest rail news on Wednesday, 24th February 2021

---

One in seven rail commuters could switch to cars post-pandemic, train bosses fear as they renewed calls for simpler fares.

An article in The Daily Telegraph, says The Rail Delivery Group, the body which represents train operators, surveyed 3,000 people and found 15 per cent of former rail users planned to travel by car once lockdown is eased.

In a blog post, Jacqueline Starr, RDG chief executive, wrote: “As we emerge from lockdown, updated regulations must enable train operators to give people what they want – a radically simplified system of products based on easier fares with offers tailored to suit different needs.”

---

Flooding caused chaos for train passengers yesterday as Scotland faced a day of gales and torrential rain.

An article in the Daily Express (Scotland) said that divers had to check the stability of several bridges as gusts of up to 70mph were recorded.

---

A major upgrade to transport more freight by rail to and from Southampton is complete.

Freight services between Southampton, the Midlands and the North can now carry up to 20 per cent more goods thanks to track, signals and sidings improvements.

Trains once restricted to 520 metres in length can now be extended up to 775 metres in length, or 14 extra containers per train.

[Click here for more details.](#)

---

Finally, and Grand Central has decided to extend its current period of hibernation, following the government’s announcement on the timeline for the easing of current national lockdown restrictions.

The train operators says it now aims to return to service on March 27<sup>th</sup>, however, should circumstances allow it to bring trains back earlier, it will do so.

[Click here for more details.](#)

*Photo credit: Network Rail*