

In The News | 27th February 2023 | Latest Rail News

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The Caledonian Sleeper is expected to be nationalised by the Scottish Government, rail industry sources have told The Scotsman.

An article on the paper's website says a statement by transport minister Jenny Gilruth to MSPs planned for Thursday is anticipated to confirm the overnight train service will switch to public hands, like ScotRail last year.

The predicted move follows Ms Gilruth announcing in October that Serco's 15-year franchise to run the Sleeper would be terminated seven years early after she rejected the company's request for significantly increased funding to cover the rest of the contract as "not value for money".

Work on the construction of the £80 million new, bigger sea wall to protect the railway in Dawlish has reached its final stages.

An article on Devon Live says work on the 415 metre second section of new sea wall – stretching from Coastguard breakwater northeast of Dawlish station to Colonnade breakwater – with its wider, safer public promenade, began in November 2020.

This followed the completion and opening of the first section of new sea wall in July 2020, which runs for 360 metres from Colonnade to Boat Cove.

Nexus has announced plans to improve digital connectivity on Tyne and Wear Metro, with the aim of creating a seamless 4G or 5G signal across the whole network.

This follows research which shows that Metro customers want a better digital experience, from when they walk from the street onto a station platform and right through their journey.

Nexus, the public body which owns and manages Metro, says they will be focusing investment on boosting commercial mobile network strength across the Metro system, rather than putting Wi-Fi on board trains as they say this is expensive to provide and would be used by very few customers.

[Click here for more details.](#)

To mark one year since Russia attacked Ukraine, train operator Southeastern named one of its Class 707 (001) City Beam trains Spirit of Ukraine.

An article on Rail Advent says the naming came after a minute's silence at an event at London's Cannon Street station and included performances from the Canterbury 4 Ukraine Women's Choir.

The train's Spirit of Ukraine name marks the friendships and connections that have formed between Ukrainians who have settled in the communities that Southeastern serves, and the people who have welcomed them.

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