

# In The News | 27th February 2024 | Latest Rail News

February 27, 2024



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Network Rail has announced a recovery plan for the Reading-London Paddington route after months of poor performance.

An article on the BBC website says it made national headlines when broken wires left 4,000 passengers stranded on trains for four hours at night, near Ladbroke Grove, on 7 December.

Most passengers had to walk along the tracks to reach safety. There have also been a spate of failures, including broken rails and signalling faults.

The route is now set to be overhauled in three phases over 18 months.

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Network Rail has published a contract notice for a £1.38bn programme of works across the midlands region.

An article on the Construction Index website says the Midlands Rail Hub Alliance will comprise Network Rail, multi-disciplinary partners and a signalling partner (being procured separately).

The contract notice describes the scope of the alliance as the design and build of new platforms and sidings, up to two new chords into Birmingham Moor Street, widening of an existing viaduct, power supply upgrades, new freight loops, new overhead line equipment (OLE) and various signalling works including the re-modelling of existing layouts.

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HS2's London tunnels programme passed a major milestone as the third tunnel boring machine (TBM) being used as part of the project was launched.

TBM Emily, named after Emily Sophia Taylor who helped establish the Perivale Maternity Hospital in 1937 before becoming Ealing's first female mayor in 1938, will be used to dig almost half of the 8.4-mile Northolt Tunnel.

She will bore 3.4 miles under Ealing from Victoria Road Crossover Box, near HS2's new Old Oak Common station, to Greenpark Way in Greenford.

[Click here for more details.](#)

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Siemens has hosted Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the Cabinet at the Goole Rail Village in East Yorkshire.

An article on Insider Media Limited says before chairing the Cabinet meeting in the Components Facility, the Prime Minister met Siemens Mobility's UK & Ireland joint chief executive Sambit Banerjee and spoke to a group of apprentice engineers and technicians.

Siemens is in the final stages of fitting out the Train Manufacturing Facility, which is set to open this spring. It is set to produce up to 80 per cent of the new Piccadilly line Tube trains.

*Photo credit: HS2 Ltd*