

In The News | 28th October 2022 | Latest Rail News

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Mayors from West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Manchester, Liverpool and North Tyneside held an emergency meeting on Thursday afternoon in the wake of weeks of disruption which has seen hundreds of services cancelled by a number of rail operators, including TransPennine Express, Avanti West Coast and Northern.

An article in the Yorkshire Evening Post says that In a statement, the five mayors said: “As thousands of last-minute cancellations continue to make life miserable for people in the North, and cause serious

damage to the economy, the Government remains in a state of paralysis having just appointed its third Transport Secretary in seven weeks.

“If this level of disruption was being experienced in other parts of the country, we believe action would already have been taken to improve matters. We do not accept that passengers in the North should be treated in this way and just expected to put up with it. We won’t.”

The Department for Transport said yesterday that the Transport Secretary had invited northern leaders to a meeting as soon as possible.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Railway staff in Scotland will go on strike this weekend after a union rejected ScotRail’s latest pay offer.

An article on the National World says members of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT) working for the publicly owned rail operator will stage a 24-hour walkout on Saturday as part of an ongoing dispute over pay and conditions.

ScotRail said the latest offer would have seen the lowest paid staff receive a basic pay increase of almost 7.5 per cent.

A pair of major sites in South Wales have been bought in a deal that will pave the way for the £250m Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE) development.

The former Nant Helen opencast site and Onllwyn Washery have been purchased from Celtic Energy.

The 1,729-acre parcel of land will now be transformed to become a ‘one stop shop’ for railway innovation including research and development, through testing and verification and certification.

[Click here for more details.](#)

The second tunnel boring machine (TBM) to dig underneath London for the High Speed 2 (HS2) rail project was turned on yesterday.

An article on Ground Engineering says the TBM, named Caroline, after 18th century astronomer Caroline Herschel, will spend 22 months boring an 8km long tunnel from West Ruislip in west London to Greenford further east.

It comes after HS2’s first London TBM Sushila, named after local science teacher Sushila Hirani, was launched from the same West Ruislip site earlier this month.

Photo credit: GCRE