

## In The News | 29th April 2021 | Latest Rail News

April 29, 2021



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Network Rail has today been named as one of the top 50 employers for women in Britain.

The landmark achievement is recognition of the progress the organisation has made to improve diversity and become a more inclusive employer in what is traditionally, and remains, a predominantly male industry.

Loraine Martins OBE, director of diversity and inclusion at Network Rail, says: “We are incredibly proud to have been named in this list. It is a reflection of the huge amount of work that has gone in to making Network Rail a more inclusive employer and a better place to work for all.”

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Just one in 11 ScotRail trains will run for the next six Sundays after the main rail union widened its dispute over payments for working on days off.

An article in The Scotsman says the Rail, Maritime and Transport union (RMT) will escalate the action from Sunday after train ticket examiners voted to join conductors in the next series of stoppages.

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Network Rail is advising those planning to travel by train over the Early May Bank Holiday to plan ahead as it prepares to carry out 620 projects to upgrade the railway.

While the majority of the network will be unaffected, some routes will be impacted by the upgrade works taking place.

Andrew Haines, Network Rail chief executive, says: “Throughout the pandemic we have invested billions into our railway to improve the network and make sure passengers return to a better service. This programme of work will continue over the Early May Bank Holiday, with £80m worth of upgrade work taking place.”

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Finally, the world’s first Very Light Rail (VLR) ultra-rapid battery charge station has been installed at its dedicated testing centre in Dudley, by Furrer+Frey GB.

The milestone brings the new mode of public transport a step closer — supporting global efforts to decarbonise transport.

The charge station will top-up battery powered VLR vehicles wirelessly and autonomously at scheduled three-minute stops, as a low-cost alternative to traditional overhead line electrification.

[Click here for more details.](#)

*Photo credit: Network Rail*