

In The News | 31st January 2023 | Latest Rail News

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MPs have backed plans aimed at enforcing minimum service levels for some sectors during strikes.

An article on the BBC website says that under the bill, some employees, including in the rail industry and emergency services, would be required to work during industrial action – and could be sacked if they refuse.

The bill passed by 315 votes to 246 but will face further scrutiny in the House of Lords before it becomes law.

Labour said the proposals ripped up protections against unfair dismissal.

The last of 292 concrete piles that will form the foundations for the UK's longest railway bridge were installed this week at the site of HS2's Colne Valley Viaduct.

An article on the Construction Index says once complete, the 2.1-mile (3.4km) bridge will carry the new rail line across a series of lakes and waterways near Hillingdon on the northwest outskirts of London.

It will be 100-metres longer than Dundee's Tay Bridge, which currently holds the title of the UK's longest railway bridge.

A three-mile (4.8km) section of railway is to get a £3.2 million upgrade.

An article on the BBC website says part of the line between Scarborough and Hull will see 50-year-old wooden sleepers replaced with steel ones and new rails laid.

Signalling around Seamer in North Yorkshire will also be upgraded during the four days of work.

Network Rail said that trains between Malton and Scarborough would be replaced by buses between 31 January and Saturday 4 February.

Work is underway to demolish three former industrial waste processing buildings to make way for new platforms, as contractors gear up to build a brand new Willenhall railway station in Walsall.

The demolition follows the relocation of the recycling business which formerly occupied the site off Rose Hill and follows the clearance of the opposite side of the Walsall to Wolverhampton railway line last year.

This means that once the historic mine workings under the site have been stabilised, the main construction can focus on new platforms, lifts, stairs and footbridge as part of £55 million project to return passenger rail services to Willenhall and Darlaston for the first time in more than 50 years.

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Photo credit: Transport for West Midlands