

In The News: 31st July

July 31, 2020



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Britain's railways are on the verge of being formally renationalised with billions of pounds of financial liabilities carried by the train operating companies being taken on to the public books.

According to an article in The Times, it is understood that the Office for National Statistics could announce a decision today on the reclassification of the status of the privately owned train operators, which are in crisis as a result of the pandemic.

Rail industry executives are briefing that an ONS reclassification for 'accounting reasons' does not necessarily lead to 'operational nationalisation'.

A spokesman for the ONS said to the paper that it is currently reviewing the classification of train operating companies and that they will announce the outcome of this review as soon as possible.

Hull Trains has this morning announced that some services will resume next month.

From Friday 21st August trains between Beverley and King's Cross will be running for the first time since Sunday, 29th of March, when services were temporarily suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Managing Director Louise Cheeseman says she is thrilled to announce a return date and reassured customers extra cleaning measures will be taking place onboard the trains.

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Graham has secured its first two contracts on Network Rail's Control Period 6 Western Route framework.

The contract wins will see the civil engineering team deliver works at Stocks Overbridge and the River Avon Evesham bridge and Kelston Park.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Finally, and South Western Railway is looking for new homes for its soon to be retired Island Line fleet.

The 5 Class 483 trains, built in 1938 for the London Underground, have been serving the Isle of Wight since 1989.

Following a £26 million investment to secure the future of Island Line, the current fleet is due to be replaced by the Class 484 trains.

Organisations interested in adopting a soon to be former Island Line train will need to demonstrate the capacity and financial security to remove and look after the train.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Photo credit: South Western Railway

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