

In The News | 4th March 2024 | Latest Rail News

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Siemens is to invest £100 million to build a factory in Wiltshire to produce the next generation of rail signalling and control systems for Britain.

An article on Construction Enquirer says it will replace its historic railway signalling and controls industrial complex next to the Great Western main line at Chippenham in Wiltshire.

The new cutting-edge facility as to be built in Chippenham is expected to be operational by 2026, with around 800 skilled manufacturing, research, engineering and reporting roles transitioning to the new site and no interruption in production.

Rail fares in England and Wales have risen by 4.9 per cent, adding hundreds of pounds to annual travel costs for many commuters.

An article on The Guardian website says campaigners said passengers would be “rightly angry” at the latest increase, above the current inflation rate of 4 per cent, despite the government arguing that it had made a significant intervention to keep the fare rise down.

Ministers said the decision was “striking a balance”, with rail revenues still about 20 per cent below pre-pandemic levels and the railway requiring larger-than-usual public subsidy. However, the increase comes in contrast to policy in London, where Tube and bus fares will be frozen for another year.

From today penalties will be introduced for people dodging fares on the South Wales mainline.

An article on the ITV website says if you’re caught without a valid ticket you’ll be given a penalty of £20 or double the fare – whichever is more.

The new penalties will be enforced on journeys between Severn Tunnel Junction and Carmarthen on Transport for Wales (TfW) services.

A plan to regenerate an old Teesside railway station with £40m has been announced.

An article on The Northern Echo says South Bank station will be transformed into a transport hub in the first phase of work submitted to Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.

The plans include extensive road improvements and a co-ordinated access to the Teesside Freeport area near the station to provide better access to jobs.

A new station car park, including a park and ride facility, is also part of the wider plan.

Photo credit: Transport for Wales