

In The News | 5th December 2022 | Latest Rail News

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InTheNews: The latest rail news on Monday, 5th December 2022

The RMT has turned down a new pay offer from the operators who belong to the Rail Delivery Group (RDG), describing it as “not acceptable”. The union is demanding a meeting today as the first of the Christmas strikes get nearer.

An article on Rail News says the offer consisted of a “framework agreement”, which would have funded pay increases of up to eight per cent for the pay awards in 2022 and 2023.

The RDG said: “This is a fair and affordable offer in challenging times, providing a significant uplift in salary for staff.

“If approved by the RMT, implementation could be fast-tracked to ensure staff go into Christmas secure in the knowledge that they will receive this enhanced pay award early in the New Year alongside a guarantee of job security until April 2024.”

Detailed plans have been submitted to the government as transport bosses in the Midlands seek approval for £1.5 billion of improvements to the rail network.

An article on the BBC website says the proposals would see up to 100 extra trains in the region every day, transport body Midlands Connect said.

Several engineering schemes are in the plans, including creating access to Birmingham from the East Midlands and south west England and Wales.

If approved by ministers, work would start in 2025, the group said.

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The days of short-haul flights in Europe are numbered, at least in France. On Friday the European Commission gave the go ahead for France to prevent flights between Paris Orly airport and Nantes, Lyon, and Bordeaux.

An article on Forbes says that if, after three years, the concept is judged successful then more flight routes will be banned.

As part of the country’s Climate Law, France wants to abolish flights between cities that are linked by a train journey of less than two and a half hours. New high-speed rail lines—part of the EU’s TEN-T project—will make many short-haul flights redundant across Europe, believe planners and politicians.

Passengers will once again have direct trains between Carlisle and Newcastle and Carlisle and Skipton from this week after the routes were closed by a major freight train derailment.

Railway engineers are putting the finishing touches to complex repairs at Petteril Bridge junction after several wagons of a train carrying powdered cement came off the track seven weeks ago.

Trains are due to start running again from Wednesday (7 December).

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