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InTheNews: The latest rail news on Tuesday, 7th June 2022

A £200 million project to build a railway research facility on the site of an old coal mine is making progress with the appointment of Walters Group to undertake initial earthworks.

An article on The Construction Index says a design team and planners are also now in place.

Construction of the Global Centre of Rail Excellence is set to transform the former Nant Helen opencast mine and Onllwyn washery at the head of the Dulais and Tawe Valleys in South Wales.

It will be a place for testing rolling stock and rail infrastructure, as well as for storage and maintenance.

Work is set to commence on the construction of Lostwithiel's long-awaited bridge this autumn.

An article on Cornwall Live says it comes after more than £1.8 million was secured for the project to construct a footbridge over the Grenville Road level crossing, providing access to both sides of the train station.

Passengers and local residents should benefit from quicker and easier access across the railway and to the station due to the addition, with the town having no footbridge currently.

Construction is scheduled to start this autumn, and it is expected the bridge will be completed and open to the public next spring.

TransPennine Express (TPE) has launched a blueprint for sustainability to coincide with World Environment Day, detailing how it is set to become greener and more socially conscious than ever before.

A key focus for TPE is to prioritise where its efforts can have the biggest positive impact to meet the needs of the communities it serves, delivering environmental, social, and financial sustainability.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Plans for a wetland network around the HS2 line in Birmingham have been revealed.

An article on the BBC website says the plans, designed by HS2 contractor Balfour Beatty, include grass meadows, woodland and ecological ponds near the Birmingham and Fazeley canal viaduct.

The high-speed rail project, due to open between 2029-2033, often attracts criticism from environmental activists but maintains its green credentials.

Designs for the area will be presented at community events this week.

Photo credit: HS2 Ltd