

## In The News | 8th July 2021 | Latest Rail News

July 8, 2021



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The Northern Line Extension has reached a major milestone with the start of trial operations on the new 3km twin-tunnel railway between Kennington and Battersea Power Station, via Nine Elms.

Transport for London (TfL) is now running Northern line trains through the new tunnels every weekend to allow the railway and supporting systems to be run as close to an operational service as possible.

It comes ahead of the extension's planned opening in the autumn, helping support the capital's recovery at a critical time.

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High-speed parcel deliveries will soon be made by rail to satisfy a growing demand for faster freight.

Network Rail and distribution firm Orion have showed how the concept works at Euston station.

Former passenger trains are being converted to take goods directly into city centre stations.

[Click here for more details.](#)

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Bosses have revealed a six-year vision for Sunderland central station. The £26 million transformation features in the Chronicle Live.

The plans feature a new multi-storey car park, public toilets and retail space with preparatory work expected to begin within days.

Working in partnership with Network Rail, Nexus, Grand Central and Northern Rail, Sunderland City Council is driving the project to meet future transport needs.

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Andrew Stephenson, Minister of State for Transport, has visited the University of Birmingham to formally open a new purpose-built centre designed to deliver specialist research in railway engineering.

The Centre of Excellence for Digital Systems was delivered via a partnership between the University and the UK Rail Research and Innovation Network (UKRRIN) with investment from Research England.

Facilities include cab simulators, and a signalling control centre, as well as project labs, and other technologies that will enable high quality, fast-paced research, through proof-of-concept to demonstration and testing.

[Click here for more details.](#)

*Photo credit: Orion*