

In The News | 8th September 2022 | Latest Rail News

September 8, 2022



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The Government is considering withdrawing Avanti's contract to run train services on the West Coast Mainline, as ministers insisted "all options" remain on the table once the agreement ends.

An article on the Evening Standard says rail operator Avanti has run fewer than half of its normal services since August 14 and blamed the reduction on "unofficial strike action" by drivers.

Transport minister Trudy Harrison insisted restoring the service between London and Manchester to full strength was an “absolute priority” for the Government.

In the Commons, she faced calls from Labour to strip Avanti of the contract when it expires in October.

The RMT has written to transport secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan, urging her to take a ‘new approach’ to the rail disputes which have already triggered a number of disruptive strikes in recent months, with more walkouts due soon.

An article on Rail News says the RMT is set to stage more strikes on National Rail on 15 and 17 September, and there will be simultaneous action by ASLEF on the 15th.

Separate disputes with Hull Trains and London Overground operator Arriva Rail London will also cause walkouts at these operators on the 15th.

In addition, management and clerical union TSSA is set to strike for 24 hours from midday on the 26th.

The biggest major line closure ever seen on the Tyne and Wear Metro gets underway next week to allow for a £104 million track dualling project to be carried out in South Tyneside.

The Metro Flow project will see three sections of single track – pinch points on the Metro network – dualled during the closure.

When completed it will improve reliability across the whole of Metro and allow Nexus to increase the frequency of trains in the future.

[Click here for more details.](#)

August was a record-breaking month for Eurotunnel with the largest number of pet crossings to date – a total of 54,501.

This takes the total volume of pets carried on Le Shuttle to over 3.7 million since 2000.

Summer 2022 was a record breaker for pet travel as a whole, with over 98,000 journeys across the summer holidays in July and August.

Photo credit: Tyne and Wear Metro