

## In The News | 9th April 2024 | Latest Rail News

April 9, 2024



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The Government has pulled out of last-ditch calls to try and save Alstom's Derby factory on Monday (April 8), according to the city's inward investment boss.

That's according to an article on The Business Desk website, that says John Forkin, managing director of Marketing Derby, posted on social media platform X on Monday evening that patience had now run out with pursuing official channels to try and salvage the jobs of 3,000 workers at Alstom's Litchurch Lane site – an 15,000 in the wider supply chain that it supports.

A clearly angry Forkin posted: "A senior government representative pulled out of a meeting with Team Derby today so we will take the gloves off and open up a community-wide campaign to save UK train design and building."

The post was in response to an interview by railway industry podcast Green Signals with Alstom UK's managing director Nick Crossfield in which he warned that if the Derby plant disappears the UK will be the only G7 country without the capability to take a train carriage from initial design to finished rolling stock.

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Cross-border rail services between Belfast and Dublin are set to benefit from a £141.9m investment.

An article on the BBC website says the investment is part of the Peace Plus initiative which funds projects in Northern Ireland and border counties.

The funding will support a major programme aimed at providing an hourly service between Belfast and Dublin.

As part of this all existing Enterprise trains are to be replaced with brand new trains by the end of this decade leading to faster journey times.

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Oxford Properties Group and Logistics Capital Partners (LCP) have announced the signing of an exclusive agreement with Maritime Transport at West Midlands Interchange (WMI).

The agreement secures Maritime Transport as the long-term operator of WMI's strategic rail freight interchange ("SRFI") on the West Coast Mainline.

[Click here for more details.](#)

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Construction of the new HS2 line has reached another key milestone, with the launch of the fourth – and final – machine being used to build the giant Northolt Tunnel beneath the capital.

The 8.4-mile tunnel will run from Victoria Road in Ealing to West Ruislip in Hillingdon – carrying trains in and out of London – and is being constructed by four huge tunnel boring machines (TBMs).

In keeping with tunnelling tradition, the fourth machine is named after a prominent woman – Lady Anne Byron. The name was chosen by the local community around Ealing through a public vote.

[Click here for more details.](#)