

# Managing director Helen Smith to leave Severn Valley Railway

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The Severn Valley Railway has announced that its managing director Helen Smith will leave the organisation in the next few months, to take up another role.

Helen will remain in post for the next few months and will be working closely with the SVR's chairman Mike Ball and vice chairman Jonathan Dunster to ensure a smooth handover. The railway says it will release more information as soon as possible.

Mike Ball said: "Helen has made a phenomenal contribution to the SVR. In the three years that she's been with us she has steered the railway through the devastating impact of COVID, ensuring we secured substantial government support and emergency grant funding to keep us going when we were unable to operate.

"She successfully oversaw the reopening of the Railway in very changed and testing circumstances, with the country still in partial lockdown. It's a testament to her leadership that we won a national VisitEngland excellence award for Resilience and Innovation last year."

*Photo credit: Severn Valley Railway*