

Rail Minister and Shadow Minister to kick off RIA Annual Conference

October 25, 2022



The Rail Minister Kevin Foster and Shadow Rail Minister Tan Dhesi will join a high-profile line-up of speakers at this year's Rail Industry Association's (RIA) Conference.



They will both take part in the opening session as the railway supply sector comes together to debate the issues of the day on November 10th. This year's conference – taking place over two days – is entitled

'Growing rail in a year of transition', and is set to include discussions on the current state of rail policy and Great British Railways (GBR), long-term funding in tough economic times, certainty for major rail projects, decarbonisation, digitalisation, exports and trade, and skills and diversity.

RIA chief executive Darren Caplan said: "We are delighted to have both Rail Minister Kevin Foster and Shadow Rail Minister Tan Dhesi speaking at the RIA Annual Conference. It will be interesting to hear the views of both government and opposition on rail issues, in what are clearly tumultuous political and economic times.

"It's really important that rail suppliers put their own views and questions to senior politicians, at an important time for rail, with GBR delayed and tough decisions being taken on public spending. If rail businesses and organisations haven't yet booked their tickets, now is the time to reserve your place."

RIA's award-winning Annual Conference is a much-regarded highlight of the UK rail calendar and 2022 will be no exception. The supply chain community will have the possibility of meeting face-to-face with clients, industry leaders, influencers, international guests and policy makers.

Over November 10 and 11 the programme will combine keynote speeches, panel discussions, interview sessions, exhibition area and unique networking opportunities.

Joining the two MPs are the Chief Executive of Office of Rail and Road John Larkinson, Mark Phillips, the Chief Executive of RSSB, Chief Executive of Network Rail Andrew Haines OBE and Chairman of Network Rail, Sir Peter Hendy CBE, among others.



There's a wide range of speakers over the two day event

Sir Peter said: "We are preparing for the biggest change in the railway in a generation. The RIA Annual Conference is an important opportunity for the rail industry to look at how we are planning and preparing for this milestone and what it will mean for the private sector."

The conference takes place on Thursday, November 10 and Friday, November 11 at the Park Plaza London Riverbank, 18 Albert Embankment in London. Visit www.riagb.org.uk/AC22 for more details