

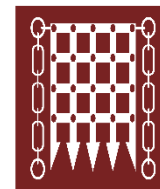
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Next steps for Britain's rail network

Timing: Morning, Monday, 13th April 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **The vision for Great British Railways and key priorities moving forward**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **The Railways Bill and establishing GBR - design, responsibilities and oversight**
clarifying the statutory remit and responsibilities of GBR / maintaining passenger service performance, reliability and value during the transition to public ownership / the role and duties of the new passenger watchdog including consultation, transparency and redress / implications for independent regulation and the future role of the Office of Rail and Road / accountability frameworks and the sharing of responsibilities across GBR, devolved authorities and operators
Senior representative, passengers
Senior representative, ticketing
Senior representative, train operator
Senior representative, devolved administration
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Next steps for regulatory reform and independent oversight**
John Larkinson, CEO, Office of Rail and Road
- 10.30 **Public ownership, private sector access and open access frameworks**
GBR's duties relating to public service alongside freight, private sector and open access needs / priorities for implementing the new Access and Use Policy / safeguards, monitoring and enforcement for open access and freight targets / alignment of capacity allocation and growth targets with funding cycles / addressing disparities arising from access and track usage charges
Senior representative, freight
Senior representative, open access operator
Senior representative, legal
- 10.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 Break
- 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.25 **Devolved powers and assessing opportunities for regional transport, development and growth**
Senior representative, mayoral combined authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Delivering the UK's rail infrastructure pipeline - planning, finance and skills**
delivery risks across major projects including the Transpennine Route Upgrade, East West Rail, Midlands Rail Hub and Northern Powerhouse Rail / managing the impact of inflation, supply chain pressures and constrained capital budgets / prioritisation of maintenance, renewals, enhancements and digital upgrades within CP7 / reconciling national priorities with government-backed devolution plans and regional ambitions for greater control over services, fares and investment / approaches to maintaining confidence in how funding is planned and delivery timetables are set
Senior representative, transport project
Senior representative, investment
Senior representative, skills
Senior representative, supply chain
Senior representative, infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Development of the Long-Term Rail Strategy and implementing the Railways Bill**
Senior speaker confirmed from the Department for Transport
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum