



Department
for Transport

Paul Plummer
Chief Executive,
Rail Delivery Group
paul.plummer@raildeliverygroup.com

From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling

Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Tel: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
E-Mail: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

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I have today written to the rail trade unions, sending the attached letter to the General Secretaries asking for their support in working with the industry to reduce wage inflation as part of our goal to keep costs down, which is an ambition we all share. I would be grateful if you could share this letter with your members.

As you develop your plans in bringing together the industry to improve the long-term affordability of the rail workforce, I would specifically like the industry to start developing a high level approach for how earnings growth for all employees, whether covered by collective bargaining or not, could be aligned more closely with CPI. I would like to understand what steps could be taken to migrate towards this goal over a reasonable period of time, taking into account all the circumstances and the views of relevant stakeholders.

I have asked my Department's officials to get in touch with you to discuss this in more detail and to collaborate closely with you, in developing this thinking. I would envisage discussing RDG's initial proposals in late autumn and would be grateful if you could work to this deadline.

We are at a key juncture for our industry and I know I can continue to count on RDG's support in enabling us to meet and deliver on the promise of the future.

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT