

SECOND MEETING OF THE RAIL ENGAGEMENT GROUP (REG)
DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT (DfT), GREAT MINSTER HOUSE, LONDON
AND MICROSOFT TEAMS

9 DECEMBER 2025

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Richard George	Chair
Lord Peter Hendy	Rail Minister
Alex Hynes	DG Rail Services Group, DfT
Richard Goodman	DG Rail Reform and Strategy Group, DfT
Eddie Dempsey	General Secretary, RMT
Gary Kelly	Organiser, TSSA
John McGookin	Acting National Officer, Unite
Jeremy Westlake	CEO, Network Rail
Jacqueline Starr	Executive Chair and CEO, Rail Delivery Group
REG Secretariat	DfT

APOLOGIES

Sian Elliott	Director of Organising, TUC
Mick Whelan	General Secretary, ASLEF

Welcome

The Chair opened the Special REG meeting and invited the Rail Minister, Lord Hendy, to provide an update on the Railways Bill and Great British Railways (GBR).

Update

Lord Hendy explained that the Special REG meeting was being held to coincide with Second Reading of the Railways Bill and the launch of GBR branding. Lord Hendy outlined the Bill's parliamentary process and some of its key objectives:

- Establishing GBR
- Creating a new passenger watchdog
- Introducing unified ticketing via a single website

Discussion

Lord Hendy invited questions and comments. REG members expressed broadly support for the Bill and the creation of GBR. Queries were raised on corporate design, staff pensions, safety and accessibility and staff transfers into GBR. Lord Hendy addressed each point and advised that some matters should be considered further by REG.

Date of next meeting

- Next regular REG meeting scheduled for 16 February 2026.

Actions

None recorded.