FOURTH MEETING OF THE RAIL ENGAGEMENT GROUP (REG)

NETWORK RAIL, WATERLOO GENERAL OFFICES, LONDON

10TH JUNE 2026

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Richard George	Chair
Alex Hynes	CEO, DFTO
Richard Goodman	Director General Rail Reform and Strategy Group, DfT
Eddie Dempsey	General Secretary, RMT
Dave Calfe	General Secretary, ASLEF
Gary Kelly	Organiser - Scotland & Ireland, TSSA
John McGookin	Acting National Officer, Unite
Jeremy Westlake	CEO, Network Rail
Daniel Mann	Rail Delivery Group
VA Rail	
REG Secretariat	

Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone. REG agreed the minutes of previous REG meetings, so they could be published on GOV.UK.

Great British Railways (GBR) and Railways Bill Update

An update was provided on the Bill and work to establish GBR. As part of this, the Chair set-out how trade union (TU) engagement on key GBR workforce issues might be taken forward. REG members discussed this and some of the priorities for engagement.

GBR Branding

REG was shown designs of GBR badges and lanyards and informed that GBR branding will be introduced with appropriate regional identifiers. It was confirmed that the rollout would be gradual and subject to consultation with staff and their TUs.

Rail Performance

REG received a presentation from VA Rail on the seven-point plan to improve train crew resourcing, looking at key areas such as driver resourcing and Sunday working

arrangements. REG members welcomed the presentation and generally agreed with the plan's objectives.

Interim Report on Productivity and GBR

Eddie Dempsey highlighted the key findings of the interim report ‘Beyond Simplification: Great British Railways, Productivity and Public Value’. Some of the points highlighted included the need to improve workforce planning, reduce fragmentation and establish a national dialogue on productivity. REG members acknowledged that the report made many important points that should inform discussions about GBR as plans for it progress.

Next Steps/Actions:

Action 4a: Previous REG meeting minutes to be published on GOV.UK

Action 4b: Next REG meeting planned for September/October - exact date to be confirmed.

Action 4c: Seven-point plan presentation to be circulated to REG members.