



Virgin and Stagecoach join forces with SNCF for West Coast Partnership bid



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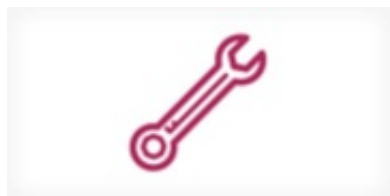
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The Government has announced the West Coast Partnership will run from 2019 to 2026, which will include the first few years of HS2. Consequently, bidders must have high speed experience and SNCF brings that to our partnership.

The shareholding for the bid is Stagecoach 50%, SNCF 30% and Virgin 20%. We have already submitted the expression of interest which is the first stage of the bid, and have been shortlisted by the Department for Transport as a bidder for the franchise. The next stage is preparing for the invitation to tender, which is expected to be issued

by the end of the year.

August Bank Holiday HS2 improvement works



Various improvement projects will be taking place between London Euston and Milton Keynes Central in preparation for HS2, which means there will be no access into or out of London Euston all day on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August.

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London Euston station will be completely closed on these two days. Services will operate from Milton Keynes Central to destinations along the west coast. We expect our services on Thursday 24, Friday 25, and Monday 28 August to be extremely popular. For customers who do choose to travel, we strongly recommend making a reservation on a specific train before travelling. More information on these engineering works and timetables can be found at virgintrains.com/spanner.

Record numbers of passengers travelling to Cumbria and Scotland on the west coast



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Oxenholme (the gateway to the Lake District) was the most popular destination, with 55% of journeys to the region being made between London and Oxenholme.

Following the devastating floods of 2015, we worked with others in the region to promote tourism and offered discounted fares to flood-hit areas.

New figures show that Virgin Trains carried 294,000 passengers between Glasgow and London over a 24-week period to 31 March 2017. This follows an increase in availability of £30 fares, driving customers to choose to travel by train rather than flying.

Virgin Trains wins at the Scottish Transport Awards



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We were named Public Transport Operator of the Year, cementing our reputation as the UK's leading long distance rail provider. The award reflected the work we have undertaken, including the introduction of our free on-board entertainment service.

Matt Litton, a Virgin Trains employee, was also commended in the Frontline Employee of the Year category, for intervening to stop the racist abuse of a passenger on board one of our services.

New General Managers on the West Coast



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Michael Stewart is the new General Manager for our Anglo-Scot route. Michael has been with Virgin Trains for three years and previously worked as the Anglo-Scot Commercial Finance Business Partner.

Amanda Hines has been appointed as General Manager for the North West and Wales, taking up the position in July. She was previously Virgin Trains' Deputy HR

Director.

Announcing our new charity partnership with Rethink Mental Illness

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Colleagues across Virgin Trains will be raising money throughout the year with a



programme of fundraising activities designed to work with local communities along our route. The partnership will see Rethink Mental Illness in England, alongside partner charities Hafal in Wales and Support in Mind Scotland collaborate with our Community Champions to organise local initiatives and campaigns.

Delivering extra seats on our North Wales route



We're enhancing Sunday services along our North Wales route with double Voyager trains to increase capacity.

We're enhancing Sunday services along our North Wales route with double Voyager trains to increase capacity. Customers travelling on the 10:42 Crewe to Holyhead and 13:55 Holyhead to Euston services on Sundays now benefit from longer trains and more seats, with nearly 70% available to reserve on some of our busiest services on the North Wales route.