



Department
for Transport

From the Minister of State
and Minister for London
Jo Johnson MP

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Dear Colleague

I am writing to provide an update on rail services on the Northern network.

Northern's implementation of an interim timetable has helped to bring some stability, giving passengers the ability to better plan ahead - for example, 87% of trains ran on time on the morning of Wednesday 13th June, compared to 73% on the first morning of Northern's temporary timetable.

However, I know that many colleagues remain – understandably – frustrated with the continuing disruption on some parts of the network and that there is still a long way to go until performance is good enough. The improvement in performance that we've seen during the course of the last week must now accelerate.

To ensure you receive the information that you need, I have asked Northern and Network Rail to host another drop-in session for MPs in Parliament on Wednesday 20 June to provide an update on train services and their plans to deliver a more reliable service. Northern and Network Rail will be in touch with you to provide further details.

Northern is managed by the Rail North Partnership on behalf of Transport for the North and the Department for Transport and I would like to reassure colleagues that the Department remains fully committed to establishing what went wrong with this timetable change and the measures needed to prevent such failures in future.

The terms of reference for the Office for Rail and Road's independent inquiry have been announced, with an interim report expected to be published in September ahead of a final report by the end of the year.

The full terms of reference can be found here: <http://orr.gov.uk/news-and-media/press-releases/2018/orr-launches-independent-inquiry-into-may-timetable-disruption>.

Last week, we also announced that there would be special compensation for affected passengers. Eligibility criteria will be developed with Transport for the North and announced in due course, with passengers able to make compensation claims from early July.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Johnson', written in a cursive style.

JO JOHNSON