

Harborough District Council

The Symington Building, Adam, and Eve Street,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7AG
01858 828282 • www.harborough.gov.uk



10 August 2023

Steve Montgomery
Rail Delivery Group Ltd
First Floor North,
1 Puddle Dock,
London,
EC4V 3DS

Sent via email

CC. All district councillors

Dear Mr Montgomery

Industrial action on the railways

As Leader of the Council, I write to you following a Motion which was debated by the Council at its meeting on 24 July 23 in respect of the continued disruption to users of railway services due to on-going disputes over pay and conditions.

Our district is served by East Midlands Railway, who, in advance of each period of industrial action, warn our residents that there will be train cancellations and that they should check their train is running before travelling.

The impact of the industrial action is that our residents have to resort to cars and coaches instead of trains, or they simply cannot complete their journeys. This particularly has an impact upon those who have to travel to work or education and also on the hospitality and tourism industry.

The government has invested in our local railway station and the Midland Mainline is being electrified both of which are welcomed; however this work is being undermined by the ongoing industrial action. People making alternative arrangements for travel may not return to the railway.

The Council believes that this ongoing and serious disruption to the rail travelling public has now gone on long enough and our residents, communities and businesses in the Harborough district are being seriously adversely affected. It has therefore instructed me to contact you and request that you meet with the Secretary of State for Transport and the recognised Trade Unions with the aim of resolving this dispute.

I will write separately to the Secretary of State for Transport to make the same request.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Phil Knowles
Leader of the Council

