



*The Railway Forum*

## ***Press Release***

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## **THE RAILWAY INDUSTRY THANKS LONG SERVING TRANSPORT MINISTER**

On behalf of the whole railway industry, The Railway Forum thanks Alistair Darling for his involvement with the industry over the past four years following today's Government reshuffle and his subsequent move to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Alistair Darling has been a long serving Secretary of State for Transport and during his four years in office he has overseen a major transformation of our industry. Speaking on behalf of the industry Adrian Lyons, Director General, The Railway Forum says 'We are sorry to see Alistair Darling go. He took over in 2002 at a difficult time for the railways. We thank him for the outstanding job he has done, not only in rebuilding relations but for bringing an intelligent and pragmatic approach to transport issues and the railways in particular. We now wish his successor, Douglas Alexander, well and look forward to working with him to build on the improvements the industry has made over the past few years.'

-Ends-

## Notes to Editors:

1. The Railway Forum is an industry-wide body sponsored by the majority of the train operating companies, Network Rail, all three major rolling stock leasing companies, the Passenger Transport Executives, London Underground, most of the infrastructure maintenance companies and many manufacturing and other businesses serving the UK rail industry. We are complementary to the other railway associations who are themselves members of the Forum: the Association of Train Operating Companies and the Railway Industry Association. In all we have over 50 members. Our key role is to act as a think tank, information exchange and point of contact for those committed to and interested in our industry.

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