



COUNCIL MEETING

16 March 2017

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor P Dillon will move the following motion:

Gateshead Council welcomes that Gateshead passengers are currently guaranteed a safety critical Train Guard on board every Northern Rail train to assist in protecting the safety of the train and passengers, provide advice and assistance and to allow disabled passengers to embark and disembark at unstaffed stations.

Council is concerned however at proposals for Northern Rail franchise led by the Department for Transport and jointly managed with Rail North that could end the guarantee of a guard on every train by introducing Driver Only Operation on over fifty per cent of services.

Council believed Northern Rail should reach a similar agreement to those recently reached by Transpennine Express and Scotrail which have retained Guards whilst also introducing new modern rolling stock.

Council agrees to make representations to Northern Rail to reach an agreement with RMT that retains the guarantee of a safety critical guard on every train and demand from Government appropriate changes to the franchise agreement if that should prove necessary.

Proposed by: Councillor P Dillon

Seconded by: Councillor L Twist

Supported by: Councillor M Brain
Councillor J Adams
Councillor N Weatherley
Councillor P Mole