

Andy McDonald response to the publication of Transport Focus' latest National Rail Passenger Survey

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McDonald MP. Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary, responding to the publication of Transport Focus latest National Rail Passenger Survey, said:

"With promised upgrades delayed or cancelled and fares rising way ahead of wages, it's disappointing but not surprising that passenger satisfaction remains low despite small improvements on the previous survey.

"The results also reveal a concerning decline in passengers' sense of personal security, bringing into question the government's policy of de-staffing and de-skilling the railway.

"With fewer than half of passengers finding value for money in the price of their ticket, it's becoming more difficult for the government to justify allowing private and foreign state-owned companies to take money out of the system that should be used to improve services or hold fares down.

"It's clear that an alternative is needed for Britain's railways. It is time for our railways to be run under public ownership, in the public interest as an integrated national asset, with affordable fares for all and long-term investment in the railway network."