

# Bailout of East Coast rail is undoubtedly good news for the pay packet of Richard Branson – Andy McDonald

**Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary**, responding to Richard Branson's comments defending the Government for the bailout of Virgin's East Coast Rail franchise, said:

"The bailout of the East Coast rail franchise is undoubtedly good news for the pay packet of Richard Branson, but not for taxpayers and passengers who have been short-changed by up to £2 billion.

"This bailout is yet another example of the Tories defending profiteering train companies and the rich elite at the expense of the British public who pay for and use our rail services."