

Freight train derailment at London Gateway

News story

Investigation into the derailment of a freight train approaching London Gateway, Essex, 24 December 2021.



The train following the derailment (image courtesy of Network Rail)

At about 05:45 hrs on 24 December 2021, the 22:35 GB Railfreight operated freight service from Hams Hall (near Birmingham) to London Gateway derailed on the down Thames Haven line while on the approach to London Gateway port, near to Stanford-le-Hope in Essex.

The freight train involved was formed of a class 66 locomotive and 33 wagons, all of which were of the 'container flat' type. The initial derailment occurred on Network Rail managed infrastructure, when the leading bogie of the 12th wagon derailed on plain line at about 13 mph (20 km/h). The train continued travelling for around 500 metres after this initial derailment, before it reached a set of facing points within the port boundary, when a further four wagons derailed.

The wagon involved in the initial derailment was the middle wagon of an Ecofret2 set. This comprised of three wagons semi-permanently connected to each other by steel draw bars. The wagon involved in the initial derailment was the only one in the train not loaded with a container.

There were no injuries caused by the derailment, but extensive damage was caused to track and signalling equipment inside the port boundary. The rail connection to the port remained closed until temporary repairs allowed it to reopen on 4 January 2022.

Our investigation will seek to identify the sequence of events which led to the accident. It will include consideration of the status of the track conditions, the loading of the wagons, wagon characteristics, the way in which the train was driven and any underlying management factors.

Our investigation is independent of any investigation by the railway industry or by the industry's regulator, the [Office of Rail and Road](#).

We will publish our findings, including any recommendations to improve safety, at the conclusion of our investigation. This report will be available on our website.

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[Ghana: invitation to tender for carpentry materials](#)

1" Brass hinges 1 1/2" Brass barrel bolt Box of 1" metal nail P-30 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews brass 4* 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 1/2" 2x2x16ft Odum timber 2 Lever mortise lock 3/4" Marine board Door catcher 1 1/2" Brass hinges 2" Brass barrel bolt Box of 1.5" metal nail P-40 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews brass 4* 3/4" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 3/4" 2x4x16ft Odum timber 3 Lever mortise lock 1x2x14ft Wawa board Floor Door stopper 2" Brass hinges 3" Brass barrel bolt Box of 2" metal nail P-60 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews Brass 4* 1" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 1" 2x6x16ft Odum timber 5 Lever mortise lock 2x4x14ft Wawa board Wall door stopper 2 1/2 Brass hinges 4" Brass barrel bolt Box of 2.5 metal nail P-80 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews brass 4* 1 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 1 1/2" 4x4x16ft Odum timber 5 Lever Dead mortise lock 2x8x14ft Wawa board Door Security bolt set 3" Brass hinges 6" Brass barrel bolt Box of 3" metal nail P-100 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews brass 4* 2" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 1 1/4" 5/8x3x8ft Odum timber Bathroom mortise lock 1 1/4x12x14ft Wawa board Kitchen Cabinet door spring 4" Brass hinges 8" Brass barrel bolt Box of 4" metal nail P-120 Roll of Sandpaper Woodscrews brass 4* 2 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 6 * 2" 2x12x16ft Odum timber Mortice Lock Union 1 1/2x12x14ft Wawa board Ordinary door cylinder 4" Stainless steel hinges 10" Heavy duty barrel bolt Box of 5" metal nail Box of P-60 Circular sand paper Woodscrews brass 4* 3" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 1/2" 1 3/4x4 1/2x16ft Odum timber Union Deadlock 3 Lever 1x12x16ft Fascial board Security door cylinder 4" Heavy duty stainless steel hinges 12" Heavy duty barrel bolt Box of 6" metal nail Box of P-80 Circular sand paper Woodscrews brass 4* 4" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 3/4" 2 1/2x6x16ft Odum timber Pacco Premier door mortise lock Olympia drop edge plaster boards Door closer Heavy duty dual door hinges M6 Anchor brass bolt Pack of 2" concrete nail Box of P-100 Circular sand paper Woodscrews brass 4* 5" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 1" 2 1/2x8x9ft Odum timber Hold open Button door lock 4x8x12mm standard plaster boards Heavy duty door closer Trap door spring hinges M8 Anchor brass bolt Pack of 3" concrete nail Box of P-120 Circular sand paper Woodscrews brass 4*

6" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 1 1/2" 2x3x16ft Danyer timber Metal door lock
 (Vachette) set 4x8x10mm standard plaster boards Coat hook Pair of Cabinet
 hinges M10 Anchor brass bolt Pack of 4" concrete nail Pack of P-240 Circular
 sand paper Woodscrews brass 5* 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 1 1/4" 3x3x16ft
 Danyer timber Drawer Lock 4x8x10mm fire plaster boards Pair of Drawer Rails
 M12 Anchor brass bolt Pack of 1/2" Shoe Tack Nails Pack of P-120 flat sandpaper
 Woodscrews brass 5* 3/4" Self-tapping Screws 8 * 2" 2x4x16ft Danyer timber
 Cupboard Lock Roll of Bitumen strip Pack of 3/4" Shoe Tack Nails Pack of
 P-240 flat sandpaper Woodscrews brass 5* 1" Self-tapping Screws 10 * 1/2"
 2 1/2x2x16ft Danyer timber large cabinet handle Pack of 5/8" Shoe Tack
 Nails Pack of P-600 flat sandpaper Woodscrews brass 5* 1 1/2" Self-tapping
 Screws 10* 3/4" 5 1/4x5 1/4x12ft Danyer timber Small cabinet handle
 Pack of 1" Headless nail Woodscrews brass 5* 2" Self-tapping Screws 10* 1"
 1 1/2x4x16ft Cyndarera timber Chrome Door pull handle Pack of 1/2"
 Headless nail Woodscrews brass 5* 2 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 10* 1 1/2"
 2x3 1/2x16ft Cyndarera timber Wall drop handle Pack of 3/4" Headless
 nail Woodscrews Brass 5* 3" Self-tapping Screws 10* 1 1/4" 2x3x16ft
 Cyndarera timber Door Handles Chrome Pack of 1 1/2" Headless nail
 Woodscrews brass 5* 4" Self-tapping Screws 10* 2" 2x4x16ft Cyndarera timber
 Brass Knobs Woodscrews brass 5* 5" Self-tapping Screws 12* 1/2"
 2 1/2x3x16ft Cyndarera timber Window Handles (Latches) Woodscrews
 brass 5* 6" Self-tapping Screws 12* 3/4" 2x6x16ft Cyndarera timber Window
 Lock Key Woodscrews brass 6* 1/2" Self-tapping Screws 12* 1"
 1 1/2x3 1/2x16ft Cyndarera timber Roll of Fibre mosquito net
 Woodscrews brass 6* 3/4" Self-tapping Screws 12* 1 1/2" 1 1/2x2 1/2x16ft
 Cyndarera timber Roll of Rubber mosquito net Woodscrews brass 6*
 1" Self-tapping Screws 12* 1 1/4" 2 1/2x12x16ft Shedua timber Tin of wood
 White Glue 104 (750ml) Woodscrews brass 6* 1 1/2" Self-tapping Screws
 12 * 2" Tin of Wood 99 Glue (1LT) Woodscrews brass 6* 2"
 Roll of Fibre glass Woodscrews brass 6* 2 1/2" 4" Metal
 cutting disc Woodscrews Brass 6* 3" 9" Metal cutting disc
 Woodscrews brass 6* 4" 4" Grinding disc Woodscrews brass
 6* 5" 9" Grinding disc Woodscrews brass 6* 6" 4"
 Diamond cutting disc Woodscrews brass 8* 1/2" 9" Diamond
 cutting disc Woodscrews brass 8* 3/4" Tin of Expanding foam
 Woodscrews brass 8* 1" Tin of WD 40 Lubricant
 Woodscrews brass 8* 1 1/2" Spray grease Woodscrews brass 8* 2"
 White Silicon sealant Woodscrews brass 8* 2 1/2" Clear
 Silicon sealant Woodscrews brass 8* 3" Door brush
 Woodscrews brass 8* 4" 1/2" Ordinary Plywood Woodscrews brass
 8* 5" 1/4" Ordinary Plywood Woodscrews brass 8* 6"
 3/4" Ordinary Plywood Woodscrews brass 10* 1/2" 1/2 White
 formical plywood Woodscrews brass 10* 3/4" 2 x 4 White
 Formical sheet Woodscrews brass 10* 1" 4x8x12mm PVC Sheet
 Woodscrews brass 10* 1 1/2" 5mm Perspex sheet Woodscrews
 brass 10* 2" 3mm Perspex sheet Woodscrews brass 10* 2 1/2"
 12ft Kitchen worktop Woodscrews brass 10* 3" 4m aluminium
 roofing sheet Woodscrews brass 10 * 4" 2" Hasps and Staples
 Woodscrews brass 10* 5" 4" Hasps and Staples Woodscrews
 brass 10* 6" 6" Hasps and Staples Woodscrews brass 12* 1/2"
 2" Flash Bolts brass/Stainless steel Woodscrews brass 12* 3/4"

4" Flash Bolts brass/Stainless steel	Woodscrews brass 12* 1"
6" Flash Bolts brass/Stainless steel	Woodscrews brass 12*
11/2" 4mm aluminium roofing sheet	Woodscrews brass 12* 2"
Wood veneers	Woodscrews brass 12* 2 1/2"
plastic rubber	Roll of black
Woodscrews brass 12* 4"	Woodscrews brass 12* 3"
brass 12* 5"	Mirror Cap Screws Assorted
30mm Yale padlocks	Woodscrews brass 12* 6"
50mm Yale padlocks	40mm Yale padlocks
Steel Wool	60mm Yale padlocks
Ordinary hard Flush Doors	Mahogany Flash Doors (Medium Density)
Doors (Medium)	Plywood Ordinary Flush
Nylon rope coil	6mm Nylon rope coil
Nylon rope coil	10mm Nylon rope coil
wire mesh	4x8x5mm PVC Sheet
	Plaster Board Screws 1/2"

[Prime Minister pledges Brexit Freedoms Bill to cut EU red tape](#)

- ‘Brexit Freedoms’ Bill will be brought forward to end to the special status of EU law and ensure that it can be more easily amended or removed
- Major cross-government drive to cut £1 billion of red tape for businesses and improve regulation
- Announcement follows PM’s New Years Day pledge to go “further and faster” to maximise the benefits of Brexit in 2022

A new ‘Brexit Freedoms’ Bill will be brought forward by the government, under plans unveiled by the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, to mark the two-year anniversary of Getting Brexit Done.

The Bill will make it easier to amend or remove outdated ‘retained EU law’ – legacy EU law kept on the statute book after Brexit as a bridging measure – and will accompany a major cross-government drive to reform, repeal and replace outdated EU law.

These reforms will cut £1 billion of red tape for UK businesses, ease regulatory burdens and contribute to the government’s mission to unite and level up the country.

Many EU laws kept on after Brexit were agreed as a messy compromise between 28 different EU member states and often did not reflect the UK’s own priorities or objectives – nor did many receive sufficient scrutiny in our democratic institutions.

Having regained our independence, we can now ensure that our regulations are tailor-made to the UK’s own needs. However, under current rules, reforming

and repealing this pipeline of outdated EU law would take several years because of the need for primary legislation for many changes, even if minor and technical.

The new legislation will ensure that changes can be made more easily, so that the UK can capitalise on Brexit freedoms more quickly.

The Bill is also expected to end the special status that EU law still enjoys in our legal framework. Despite our exit from the bloc, EU laws made before 1 January 2020 continue to have precedence in our domestic framework. This is simply not compatible with our status as a sovereign, independent country and the government will bring it to an end as quickly as possible.

Officials across government are currently reviewing all EU retained laws to determine if they are beneficial to the UK. It is right that people know how much EU-derived law there is and how much progress government is making to reform it, so the government will make this catalogue public in due course.

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, said:

“Getting Brexit Done two years ago today was a truly historic moment and the start of an exciting new chapter for our country.

“We have made huge strides since then to capitalise on our newfound freedoms and restore the UK’s status as a sovereign, independent country that can determine its own future.

“The plans we have set out today will further unleash the benefits of Brexit and ensure that businesses can spend more of their money investing, innovating and creating jobs.

“Our new Brexit Freedoms Bill will end the special status of EU law in our legal framework and ensure that we can more easily amend or remove outdated EU law in future”.

The Attorney General, Suella Braverman, said:

“Setting up a mechanism to deal with these legacy EU rules is essential. It underpins our ability to grasp important opportunities provided by Brexit. It means we can move away from outdated EU laws that were the result of unsatisfactory compromises within the EU, some of which the UK voted and lobbied against – but was required to adopt without question.

“These rules often had limited meaningful parliamentary scrutiny, and no democratic legitimacy in the UK at all. It is vital that we take the steps necessary, in this Parliament, to remove unnecessary rules altogether, and where regulation is needed, ensure that it meets the UK’s objectives.

“This work is key to us taking charge of our regained sovereignty which the British people voted for in 2016 and 2019”.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Steve Barclay, said:

“Leaving the EU has given us the opportunity to establish our own rules for how we live and govern our lives in Britain, from how our farmers are funded, our data is managed to unlock more innovation, and our public procurement spent in ways that unlocks greater social value.

“These reforms will cut £1 billion of EU red tape for businesses and provide them with exciting new opportunities to flourish.

“The Brexit Freedoms Bill will continue to make it easier to remove cumbersome EU laws which were initially retained to ease our transition but which do not meet the future needs of the UK.”

Alongside today’s announcement, a new policy document ‘The Benefits of Brexit: how the UK is taking advantage of leaving the EU’ will set out how the government is using new freedoms in different sectors to transform the UK into the best regulated economy in the world.

From artificial intelligence and gene editing to the future of transport and data protection, these reforms will create a new pro-growth, high-standards regulatory framework that gives businesses the confidence to innovate, invest and create jobs. This includes:

Data and AI – moving in a faster, more agile way to regulate new digital markets and AI and creating a more proportionate and less burdensome data rights regime compared to the EU’s GDPR.

Infrastructure and Levelling Up – modernising outdated vehicle standards, improving public procurement so that we can more easily exclude poorly performing suppliers and enhancing our public health system by reforming clinical trials and medical devices legislation.

Climate, the Environment and Agriculture – reforming our environmental regulation, 80% of which came from the EU, to deliver cleaner air, create new habitats, and reduce waste, while changing the rules on gene edited organisms, to enable more sustainable and efficient farming.

Business and Industry – establishing a domestic subsidy control regime to allow us to better support the UK economy, taking an ambitious approach in financial services areas previously regulated by the EU and simplifying unnecessary reporting burdens for small and medium-sized companies.

Global Britain – making the most of an unprecedented opportunity to forge new alliances and strengthen our partnerships around the world. The interests of the British people now lie at the heart of everything we do around the world – from our trade policy to our sanctions policy.

The government’s recent Plan for Growth sets out how our approach to regulation is changing to focus on delivering growth and innovation. In support of these objectives, the Government has today set out five new regulatory principles to further guide that approach (see notes to editors).

Today’s announcement also builds on the significant progress already made since the UK delivered Brexit on 31 January 2020, including:

- Ending free movement and taken back control of our borders – replacing freedom of movement with a points-based immigration system and making it easier to kick out foreign criminals.
- Securing the vaccine rollout – streamlining procurement processes and avoiding cumbersome EU bureaucracy to deliver the fastest vaccine rollout anywhere in Europe last year.
- Striking new free trade deals – with over 70 countries including landmark deals with Australia and New Zealand. We have also launched negotiations on a trade deal with India – a market of 1.4 billion people.
- Cutting back on EU red tape – including ending the Tampon Tax and simplifying complex EU alcohol duty rates.
- Strengthening our standards – allowing the UK to go further than the EU and set improved environmental, animal welfare and product safety standards.

[Government takes action to strengthen airline passenger rights](#)

- government launches plan to bolster airline passenger protections and rights, made possible thanks to the UK's departure from the EU
- new proposals to amend compensation processes available for delayed UK domestic flights and improve access to faster and cheaper dispute resolution
- comes amid calls for change from leading airlines and consumer groups

Airline customers to more easily seek justice from unfair practices thanks to new proposals announced today (31 January 2022) by Transport Secretary Grant Shapps.

Some of the proposals being consulted on have been made possible thanks to the UK's departure from the EU and our newfound ability to amend rules set under EU regulations.

These include considering the creation of a fairer compensation model for when domestic UK flights are delayed.

Based on the current compensation model used by rail and ferry customers,

this will see a significant shift away from the current 'set rate' model.

Passengers would instead be able to claim compensation based on the length of the flight delay and linked to cost of travel rather than having to meet a certain threshold – which is currently a 3-hour delay.

The government is also considering mandating all airlines to be part of the aviation Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) scheme, which would give consumers a route for escalating certain complaints that cannot be settled between the consumer and airline without needing to go to court.

In the current setup, there are 2 ADR providers in the UK and airlines can join voluntarily.

Under the new proposals, all airlines would have to join the scheme, giving customers access to this dispute route regardless of who they fly with. This could help people who are struggling to get refunds when they are entitled to them.

The proposals also aim to strengthen the UK regulator's powers to further protect both consumers' and airlines' interests. As the UK's aviation regulator, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) works to ensure consumers are protected and treated fairly. Under the new proposals, they would have increased powers to enforce consumer protection law, for example, and would be able to fine airlines directly for breaches where appropriate. □

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said:

People deserve a service that puts passengers first when things go wrong, so today I've launched proposals that aim to bolster airline consumer protections and rights.

We're making the most of our Brexit dividend with our new freedoms outside of the EU and this review will help build a trustworthy, reputable sector.

Richard Moriarty, Chief Executive at the UK CAA, said:

We welcome the action from the government to improve the rights of air passengers. This consultation is a clear indication of the need to enhance our enforcement powers and bring us in line with other regulators.

The proposals will improve passenger rights and equip the Civil Aviation Authority with the appropriate tools to act swiftly and effectively for the benefit of consumers.

The ADR scheme has helped thousands of consumers seek redress from their airline or airport and we welcome the proposal to bring more airlines onto the scheme.

We will respond to the consultation in the coming weeks.

The plans also consult on mandating that airlines provide wheelchair users and people with reduced mobility with the full amount of compensation for any damage caused to their wheelchair or mobility scooter during a domestic UK flight.

At present, under legacy rules, airlines are not mandated to cover the cost of repairs, even if the device is damaged while in their care.

Rocio Concha, Which? Director of Policy and Advocacy, said:

For years, passengers have been let down by some companies in the travel sector, battling to be heard or to get the compensation they are owed when things go wrong.

Trust in travel plummeted further during the pandemic when some airlines ignored their legal obligations and refused to pay refunds for cancelled flights.

This consultation is a welcome first step that must improve and strengthen consumer rights and protections so that complaints are dealt with fairly and promptly, and that passengers receive the money they are due quickly and without unnecessary hassle.

It is also vital that the system is backed up by a regulator with the powers it needs to take swift and strong action against any company that breaks consumer law.

Caroline Stickland, Chief Operating Officer at Transport for All, said:

Having your wheelchair or mobility aid lost or damaged by an airline doesn't just put a damper on a holiday. It can mean a total loss of independence and mobility.

Much more needs to be done to safeguard against this, including fair recourse to compensation for disabled passengers.

We welcome these proposals and hope they mark the start of further positive changes in this area so that disabled people, whatever their access requirements, can travel with security and confidence when using airlines.

PM considers major military offer to NATO

- PM considers biggest possible offer to NATO and prepares to stand up UK Armed Forces to protect allies
- UK considering options to double troop numbers and send defensive weapons to Estonia
- Fast jets, warships and military specialists could be sent to protect NATO allies
- PM expected to speak to Putin this week and to travel to the region in coming days

The UK is expected to bolster its offer to NATO with a major military deployment to strengthen Europe's borders in the face of rising Russian aggression. UK officials will be deployed to Brussels to finalise the details of the offer with NATO next week, and ministers will discuss the military options on Monday.

It comes after the Prime Minister asked defence and security chiefs to step up defensive efforts in Europe during a high level intelligence briefing on the situation in Ukraine this week.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

"This package would send a clear message to the Kremlin – we will not tolerate their destabilising activity, and we will always stand with our NATO allies in the face Russian hostility.

"If President Putin chooses a path of bloodshed and destruction, it will be a tragedy for Europe. Ukraine must be free to choose its own future.

"I have ordered our Armed Forces to prepare to deploy across Europe next week, ensuring we are able to support our NATO allies on land, at sea and in the air."

The possible deployment will reinforce NATO's defences and underpin the UK's support for Nordic and Baltic partners.

In conversations with partners in recent weeks, the Prime Minister has emphasised that without a successful combination of deterrence and diplomacy, thousands of lives will be lost in both Russia and Ukraine.

The Prime Minister is expected to speak to President Putin and travel to the region early this week to relay that message in person. A second trip to meet NATO member counterparts is being planned for early next month.

Following the Prime Minister's statement to the House of Commons last week, making clear the better relations with Russia was possible, the Prime Minister directed the Foreign and Defence Secretaries to prepare to go to Moscow for talks with their counterparts in the coming days. They will be

asked to improve relationships with President Putin's Government and encourage de-escalation.

The Prime Minister remains seized of the importance of pursuing diplomatic efforts in tandem, and last week joined a call with President Biden, European leaders and NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg. In that call leaders agreed on the importance of international unity in the face of growing Russian hostility and stressed that diplomatic discussions with Russia remain the first priority.

The Defence Secretary is also expected to travel to meet with Allies this week in Hungary, Slovenia, and Croatia on behalf of the Prime Minister.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister has also asked the Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral Sir Tony Radakin, to attend Cabinet this Tuesday to brief Ministers on the situation in Ukraine. The UK already has more than 900 British military personnel based in Estonia, more than 100 in Ukraine as part of Operation Orbital, and a Light Cavalry Squadron of around 150 people, is deployed to Poland.

Op Orbital has trained 22,000 Ukrainian troops since 2015, and further military trainers were sent to the country earlier this month to support the training of Ukrainian forces to use 2000 missiles sent from the UK.

Meanwhile, HMS Prince of Wales is in the High North leading the NATO's Maritime High Readiness Force. It is on standby to move within hours should tensions rise further.