RMT announces rail strike dates in September as pay dispute continues

Tens of thousands of rail workers will stage two further strikes this month as their dispute over pay, jobs and conditions continues.

Members of the Rail, Maritime and Transport union (RMT) at Network Rail and 14 train operators will strike on 15 and 17 September.

The union said that the rail network would “effectively shut down” as more than 40,000 of its members walk off the job.

RMT general secretary Mick Lynch said: “Our members have no choice but to continue this strike action.

“Network Rail and the train operating companies have shown little interest this past few weeks in offering our members anything new in order for us to be able to come to a negotiated settlement.

Read more:
Strike calendar – Who is walking off the job and when
RMT chief says ‘we will keep going until we get a negotiated settlement’

“[Transport Secretary] Grant Shapps continues his dereliction of duty by staying in his bunker and shackling the rail industry from making a deal with us.

More from Business



Soaring US dollar pushes pound to biggest monthly fall since 2016



UK house price growth holds steady – but warning of sharp fall ahead



Setback for Microsoft’s £59bn plan to buy video game company Activision Blizzard

“We will continue to negotiate in good faith, but the employers and government need to understand our industrial campaign will continue for as long as it takes.”

The announcement comes days after Aslef and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association announced strikes by their members in the coming weeks.

Advertisement
In separate disputes, RMT members at Hull Trains and Arriva Rail London will also strike for one day on 15 September.

The Department for Transport said: “Yet again, union leaders are choosing self-defeating, co-ordinated strike action over constructive talks, not only disrupting the lives of millions who rely on these services but jeopardising the future of the railways and their own members’ livelihoods.

“These reforms deliver the modernisations our rail network urgently needs, are essential to the future of rail, and will happen, strikes will not change this.”