



Department
for Transport

From the Secretary of State
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Dear Colleague,

You will be aware the talks between Govia Thameslink Railway and ASLEF, the drivers' union, have ended in successful resolution.

This means an end to industrial action by drivers over Driver Controlled Operation on Southern GTR trains. I am very pleased the dispute with ASLEF is resolved. Since ASLEF called off their strikes, GTR have been working to ensure that services on Southern return to normal.

It is important that the company and the unions now take the time to talk to their internal teams and workforce and that they are able to respond.

The talks ran from 18 January and were chaired by Frances O'Grady the General Secretary of the TUC and Andy Meadows, Group HR Director of the rail operator Abellio. I am grateful for their time and expertise in resolving this issue.

I am sure your constituents will join me in welcoming the end of this industrial dispute on Southern rail.

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT