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## **ARRIVA TO RUN THE NORTH'S TRAINS**

The news that Arriva Trains will be running rail services across the region including the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle and Skipton-Lancaster routes, has been welcomed by the local Settle-Carlisle organisations, the Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line and the Settle Carlisle Railway Development Company.

Richard Morris, Chairman of the Friends said 'we can expect meaningful and quality improvements from Arriva who have a good track record and ran services here over 10 years ago, with promised new trains, extra services, improved stations, connectivity and improved ticketing and Wi-Fi availability'. He continued 'The Friends look forward to working with the new operator to build on these proposals'.

Drew Haley, General Manager of the Development Company said 'it is great to see proposed new services for the Settle-Carlisle and Skipton-Lancaster routes. More services on Sundays will begin in 2017 and extra departures from Leeds and Carlisle are planned to boost the Settle-Carlisle route. Skipton to Lancaster services will increase from 4 trains daily to 7 in each direction. This gives even more reasons to use the train'.

With new electric trains and increased capacity and connectivity on services through the Aire Valley, passengers can have more guarantees of seating and a train at a time that suits them. The Leeds -Settle –Carlisle partner organisations look forward to meeting the new operator, Arriva Trains, and working with them to add even more value to the proposals.

**ENDS**

### **Editor's Notes:**

The Settle-Carlisle Railway Development Company is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes the railway line and invests in projects which benefit the local economy.

The Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line is a group campaigning to improvements to services on the Settle-Carlisle line.

More information about the Settle-Carlisle Railway can be found here: [www.settle-carlisle.co.uk](http://www.settle-carlisle.co.uk)

### **For Further Information Contact:**

Drew Haley, General Manager, Settle Carlisle Railway Development Company  
Email: [drew@settle-carlisle.co.uk](mailto:drew@settle-carlisle.co.uk) Tel 01729 825888 Mobile 07443 647956