



The UK's leading rail technology city



From world class to crass in a week...



We normally like to bring you good news.

This week we wish to communicate the anger and bemusement in Derby over the Department for Transport's decision to award the UK's largest ever rail contract to a Japanese-led consortium instead of the UK and Derby based Bombardier.

Derby hosts the world's largest rail cluster employing 6,000 people and only a few weeks ago Transport Minister Geoff Hoon described Derby's rail workforce as being 'world class'. On Thursday Geoff Hoon announced that £7.5 billion of much needed investment for the new inter city fleet will go to Hitachi, who will carry out most of the work in Japan.

We all know how much the recession is hurting. Last week the government announced unemployment in Derby and Derbyshire had increased by 9.9% and 14.6% respectively in a month. This means there are now over 20,000 unemployed people in city and county.

Marketing Derby's purpose is to support and attract investment and we are therefore joining with partners in the public and private sectors to bring attention to this astonishing decision and campaign to have it overturned.

The Derby Evening Telegraph has launched the campaign called 'Change Track'.

Gordon Brown has committed to British jobs for British workers. Lord Mandelson argues that the UK needs to build its high value added manufacturing base.

This decision has been described by local MP Bob Laxton as being 'crass.' John

Forkin from Marketing Derby said: "Can you imagine France, Germany or Japan giving £7.5bn away like this?"

In the current economic climate it is absolutely inexplicable and a serious threat to the future of the UK's high technology rail sector.

PLEASE RSVP TO THE EMAIL BELOW IF YOU WISH TO BE KEPT INFORMED AND BECOME PART OF THE CAMPAIGN tina.hartley@marketingderby.co.uk

- Normal e-bulletin service will resume next week...

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Derby
does it