

**4th November 1998**

## **Little change in Train performance**

Publishing the latest quarterly performance figures for the 25 passenger train operating companies today, Franchising Director John O'Brien commented:

"Overall performance over the last three months has shown no improvement. Comparing the end of this quarter with the previous quarter, virtually the same number of routes showed a deterioration in punctuality as those that had improved or remained static. A comparison of the current with the previous year, though, continues to show a poorer picture because of the declining punctuality earlier in the year. Reliability year on year is broadly neutral.

"I am currently engaged in discussions with operators concerning the implementation of their action plans which I called for in August. Delivering improved performance will require sustained effort and, from the proposals I have seen, I detect a clear determination to do whatever is required to achieve this improvement."