

Happening this month...

The winning bidder for the East Coast Mainline rail franchise is announced. A bid from FirstGroup, as well as joint bids from Eurostar and Keolis and from Virgin and Stagecoach have been shortlisted by the government. The franchise, which covers the route between London and Edinburgh, has been publicly run since 2009 and will return to private hands in early 2015.

Wednesday 1 October

New regulations introduce a minimum five pence charge for single-use carrier bags in supermarkets in Scotland. The country is thought to use 750,000 single carrier bags every year in supermarkets alone. All proceeds will go to good causes.

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply publishes its latest manufacturing figures.

Supermarket giants J Sainsburys PLC and Tesco PLC release their second quarter results.

Thursday 2 October

The Royal College of General Practitioners holds its annual Primary Care Conference in Liverpool. GPs and practice teams colleagues will join international speakers to explore the latest clinical and policy developments across the UK.

Saturday 4 October

Nick Clegg and his Liberal Democrat Party meet in Glasgow for their annual autumn conference.

Thursday 9 October

The Bank of England announces its latest decision regarding UK interest rates.



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Friday 10 October

The winner of the Nobel Peace Prize is chosen from what is thought to be a record-breaking list of nominations. Last year, the award went to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which was responsible for overseeing the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons arsenal.

Tuesday 14 October

The Office for National Statistics publishes its latest figures regarding UK inflation. It also releases the August House Price Index.

Wednesday 15 October

The latest monthly unemployment figures are released by the ONS.

Friday 17 October

Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective is the subject of a major exhibition at the Museum of London. The first Sherlock Holmes exhibition in the capital since 1951, it explores the character's enduring appeal and runs until April 2015.

Saturday 18 October

The TUC holds a mass demonstration in London. Held under the banner Britain Needs a Pay Rise, it campaigns to put more money back into workers' pockets as growth returns to the UK, allowing everyone to share in the economy's recovery.

Monday 20 October

The Council of Mortgage Lenders publishes its September report. In July, it announced that gross mortgage lending had reached its highest figure since 2008.

Wednesday 22 October

The National Archive releases files from 1985, the year that the wreck of the RMS Titanic was found and the

shooting of a woman during a police search of her house sparked riots in Brixton and Birmingham.



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