



## ENGLAND

---

18 July 2012 Last updated at 21:42

# East Midlands Trains gets £46m bail-out from government

**East Midlands Trains has been given £46m of taxpayers' money to make the company profitable again.**

Last year the train operator made a loss of £25m in six months and under the terms of its franchise agreement with the government was eligible for a revenue support grant.

The RMT Union said the pay-out was "corporate welfare".

The bail-out was revealed by the Department for Transport in a Freedom of Information request by the BBC.

### **'It's ridiculous'**

East Midlands Trains, which has been running local and London services in the region for five years, reported lower than expected passenger revenues and received £46,443,000 between last November and June.

The government provides subsidies to the rail industry to protect rail companies from the worst of their losses.

RMT regional organiser Ken Usher said: "We hear on a daily basis of various cuts due to austerity measures and quite clearly it's a case that this does not apply to big business. It's ridiculous."