

# Network Rail chief axed after claims he favoured female pal by promoting her to senior Commonwealth Games' role

DAVID SIMPSON was fired after being accused of failing to follow procedures by putting Anne-Marie Harmon in charge of transport for the Commonwealth Games.

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Rail boss David Simpson

Perthshire Picture Agency

A SCANDAL-HIT Rail chief has been sacked amid claims he favoured a friend by promoting her to a top post.

David Simpson is Network Rail's route managing director for Scotland.

He was fired after being accused of failing to follow procedures by putting Anne-Marie Harmon in charge of transport for the Commonwealth Games.

Last month we revealed the pair had been told to take extended leave while the matter was probed.

But yesterday bosses confirmed Simpson, 48, had left the company "with immediate effect".



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Mrs Harmon

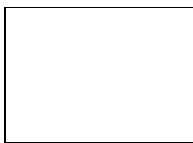
Phil Dye

They confirmed that Harmon would be allowed to return to the company. Simpson and his wife Noreen, who live in Ayr, have previously refused to comment on the matter.

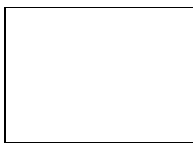
One shocked rail executive said his departure had come as a "shock".

Harmon, who lives in Larkhall, Lanarkshire, told the Record to "go away" when we approached her.

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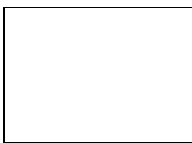
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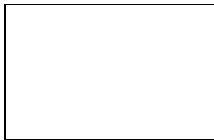
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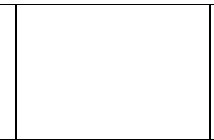
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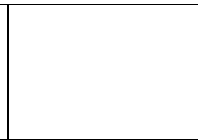
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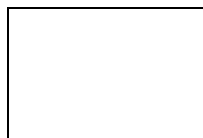
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