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As train drivers announce new strikes TWO DAYS after 14% pay offer and Border Force say they'll walk out on last weekend of August...

HAS LABOUR LOST CONTROL OF THE UNIONS ALREADY?

By **David Churchill**
Chief Political Correspondent

SIR Keir Starmer was last night accused of losing control of the unions as rail barons announced new strikes just 48 hours after being offered a bumper pay rise.

Critics said Labour's 'paymasters' were 'running rings around' the Prime Minister, ahead of another three months of crippling walkouts by train drivers.

The militant Aslef union said its members will take action for 22 days – every weekend from August 31 to November 10 – on the East Coast Mainline, connecting London to Edinburgh.

The audacious move came just two days after Transport Secretary Louise Haigh hailed a pay offer to end two years of disruptive strikes. On Wednesday, she said the deal – which would see the average driver's salary soar by 14.25 per cent to £69,000 without any concessions

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