



Artist's impression of the new Longbridge station exterior

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£1.7 million station refurbishment begins at Longbridge

Rail passengers at Longbridge are being advised to allow more time and plan ahead, as work begins on the £1.7 million refurbishment programme at the station.

Passengers will benefit from upgraded facilities, which are being delivered by Network Rail and funded by Birmingham City Council.

The funding is part of the £70 million National Stations Improvement

Programme (NSIP) to transform stations across the country.

The project is due to be completed in Spring 2019. Network Rail will refurbish the appearance of the station; by enhancing the front of the station, replacing the glass throughout the building, replacing the roof covering and installing a new over sailing canopy.

Facilities for passengers will also be improved by demolishing the existing station rooms to create a larger concourse area, complete with new flooring, new façade, automatic doors, ventilation system and a new accessible toilet and ticket counter.

Mitzi Latham, station manager for Longbridge station said, "There's been significant development around Longbridge town centre in recent years and we look forward to the investment now being made in the station.

"Longbridge will remain open throughout the works, but we would advise customers to plan ahead and allow more time for their journey over the next few months.

"When complete, the newly refurbished concourse and entrance area will be more welcoming and will improve the overall experience for all our customers."

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About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

West Midlands Trains operates both West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway services.

• **London Northwestern Railway** services operate between Liverpool and Birmingham, and on the West Coast mainline to and from London Euston. **West Midlands Railway** services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street.

For more information on these services visit<u>westmidlandsrailway.co.uk</u> or <u>londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk</u>

The West Midlands Trains franchise started on 10 December 2017 and will run until 2025/26.

West Midlands Trains operates 1,300 services a day, manages 150 stations and provides over 70 million passenger journeys a year. Over the course of the franchise, West Midlands Trains will be investing £1 billion into the rail network to deliver new trains, improved routes and station upgrades. This will include 400 new train carriages across the network and space for an extra 85,000 passengers into Birmingham and London at peak times.

The franchise is a joint venture between Abellio (70.1% share) and East Japan Railway Company / Mitsui & Co., Ltd (29.9% share in a 50:50 split). Abellio is the international passenger transport subsidiary of the Dutch national railway company, Nederlandse Spoorwegen. In the UK, Abelllio operates ScotRail and Greater Anglia train services, Merseyrail services in a joint venture with Serco and buses through Abellio London. For more information visit www.abellio.com

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