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Cheshire landslide: Disruption to London Northwestern Railway services expected on Tuesday

London Northwestern Railway (LNR) passengers travelling between Crewe and Liverpool Lime Street are being warned to expect continued disruption following a landslide near Runcorn.

Rail replacement buses have been in operation today following the slide, which has forced Network Rail to close the line at Dutton Viaduct near Acton Bridge while emergency repairs are carried out.

Buses will continue to run on Tuesday and passengers holding LNR tickets for travel can use other operators' services via reasonable routes - but are advised to check their journeys before travelling as other operators are also being severely affected by the closure.

Network Rail engineers have reported that hundreds of tonnes of rock will be used to reinforce the embankment where the earth has slipped tonight (Monday). If the strengthening work proves successful, it is hoped lines can reopen to trains by Wednesday.

When the line does reopen, it is likely a temporary speed limit will be put in place while engineers carefully monitor the location.

Tim Shoveller, managing director for Network Rail's North West and Central region, said: "I thank passengers for their continued patience as we've been trying to make the railway safe again at Dutton Viaduct. We're working to get passengers moving again as soon as we can.

"Our engineers have to stabilise the ground from any further movement before we can allow trains to run safely on the southbound line again. I'm sorry to passengers affected and I urge anyone travelling on the West Coast main line over the next few days to check their journey as disruption is expected to continue."

For the latest live travel information, visit www.lnr.uk/plan

Any passengers delayed by 15 minutes or more as a result of the issue can claim compensation via the Delay Repay scheme at www.lnr.uk/delayrepay

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 westmidlandsrailway.co.uk or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

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 80 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, Abellio 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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