



Coronavirus Travel Update

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Coronavirus: West Midlands Railway reminds passengers to make only essential journeys this Easter as engineering works commence

West Midlands Railway is reminding passengers that only essential journeys are permitted this Easter weekend as coronavirus travel restrictions continue.

The operator is also warning those essential workers still travelling to check their journeys as Network Rail undertakes three days of major engineering works at Wolverhampton.

Jonny Wiseman, customer experience director for West Midlands Railway, said:

“We understand many people would usually plan to meet up with friends and family at Easter but the government advice is clear that only truly essential journeys can be made.

“Social visits are not essential travel and so we are urging our customers to do their catching up this Easter over the phone or online. This will help stop the spread of coronavirus, protect the NHS and save lives.”

For those essential workers still travelling, there will be no trains at Wolverhampton station from Easter Saturday to Easter Monday inclusive (April 11-13). Replacement buses to and from Wolverhampton will serve Birmingham New Street, Stafford and Telford.

Customers are reminded that West Midlands Railway is running a reduced timetable due to coronavirus. For timetable information visit www.wmr.uk/coronavirus

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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