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Football fans reminded of engineering works this Easter ahead of Aston Villa vs Nottingham Forest

Football fans travelling to the Aston Villa vs Nottingham Forest match at Villa Park on Saturday (April 8) are being reminded of engineering works affecting West Midlands Railway (WMR) services.

With the Cross City Line closed north of Birmingham for engineering work, there will be no trains to Aston from Sutton Coldfield or Lichfield, meaning fans are advised to use alternative means of transport. Additional WMR services calling at Aston and Witton are being laid on before and after the game for fans travelling to/from Birmingham New Street.

The engineering works by Network Rail mean:

- Services between Lichfield Trent Valley and Birmingham New Street will not run over the Easter weekend (including Saturday 8 April). Fans travelling to the match via Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and intermediate stations will need to use alternative transport as no train service will be in operation.
- Before the match, passengers are advised to use services between Birmingham New Street and Aston / Witton. Services via Walsall and Rugeley will not call at Aston.
- Passengers are advised to travel earlier than usual before the match to avoid missing their train.
- Additional services will be provided in a two-hour window before and after the match between Aston / Witton and Birmingham New Street.
- Away fans are advised to travel via Witton station before and after the match.

Jonny Wiseman, WMR customer experience director, said:

"I would like to remind football fans travelling to the Aston Villa match on Saturday to check their journey planners as engineering works will affect services over the Easter weekend.

"With the Cross City Line closed we are adding additional services before and after the match for fans travelling to and from Birmingham, but we advise passengers to leave extra time as these services are expected to be very busy."

Engineering works will also affect other journeys across the network this weekend, including all services to/from London Euston. More information on the works can be viewed here.

About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, 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 Main Line to
 and from London Euston.
- West Midlands Railway services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street and Birmingham Snow Hill.

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

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