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Major lift improvement scheme to begin at Tamworth Station

Passengers using Tamworth station are being advised there will be no lift access at the site from July 20 while essential improvements are carried out.

The vital work is being carried out by Network Rail to improve services and accessibility at the site and will last for 12 weeks. Preparatory work to repair the lift shaft and motor structures which will allow the upgrade to take place has been safely carried out during the coronavirus lockdown.

The split-level station connects West Coast Main Line services with CrossCountry trains towards Birmingham and the East Midlands.

Passengers requiring step-free access during the work – which runs from Monday 20 July to October 2020 - are being advised to use alternative stations such as Birmingham New Street or Lichfield Trent Valley.

Sarah Higgins, head of stations for London Northwestern Railway, said: "These important works will improve the reliability of the lifts at Tamworth which we know is a priority for our customers.

"At the moment, with capacity reduced due to social distancing, we are asking passengers to only use the train for necessary journeys. For those who do need to travel it is important that they plan their journey in advance while the lift works are ongoing and use alternative stations if necessary."

James Woof, route asset manager for Network Rail, said: "We're carrying out this vital work to ensure that passengers at Tamworth Station can benefit from the best possible lift service.

"The work starts later this month and will see the old passenger lifts taken out and renewed to provide more reliable, brighter facilities and a more pleasant experience for station users for years to come."

Any passengers requiring assistance when travelling can call the London Northwestern Railway passenger assist team on 0800 024 8997 or visit www.lnr.uk/contact-us/book-assisted-travel

Passengers are advised to allow extra time for their journey and to plan ahead using the National Rail Enquiries journey planner at www.nationalrail.co.uk

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 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 <u>londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk</u>

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

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