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West Midlands Railway transfers into public ownership

From today (1 February 2026), the operation of all West Midlands Railway services have transferred into public ownership and are being managed by DfT Operator Ltd (DFTO).

DFTO is the government's public sector owning group that will manage all train companies as they move into public ownership ahead of the creation of Great British Railways (GBR).

Public ownership of the railways will help to deliver an improved experience for passengers, by enabling train operators and the management of the

railway's infrastructure to be brought together to improve performance, reduce subsidy, drive innovation and improve satisfaction, making the railway better for customers and taxpayers.

Please see the Department for Transport's [press release](#) for more information.

About London Northwestern Railway & West Midlands Railway

For further information on this release, email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

- **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 westmidlandsrailway.co.uk or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

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