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Car parking charges to be introduced at nine stations

Car parking charges are being introduced at nine stations across the London Northwestern Railway and West Midlands Railway networks.

The first charges will come into effect on August 18 at Coleshill Parkway station with prices starting at £1.12 per day for car park season ticket holders.

Andy Camp, commercial director for London Northwestern Railway and West Midlands Railway, said:

"We are making significant investment in our car parks and it is only fair that those who use them pay towards their upkeep, as already happens at the majority of stations.

"We have listened to feedback and reduced the daily rate to $\pounds 3$ from the $\pounds 4.50$ initially proposed. With an annual car park season ticket the cost to drivers will be just $\pounds 1.12$ per day.

"Importantly, these charges will reduce the impact of 'rail heading', where drivers travel many miles to avoid parking fees at their nearest station, squeezing out local residents.

"We are investing in more CCTV, better lighting and automatic number plate recognition across our car parks as well as adding 2,760 cycle spaces and station travel plans as part of our commitment to sustainable travel."

London Northwestern Railway and West Midlands Railway are investing £1billion into the railway network to improve the service to customers, including new trains and improved stations.

Station car parks are publicly-owned assets and both LNR and WMR have a duty to the taxpayer and ticket-buyers to ensure a fair return on the railway estate.

Parking discounts are available off-peak and at weekends. Car parking season tickets offer significant discounts and are available weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually.

Drivers can purchase season tickets in advance, pay at machines on-site or download an app from <u>www.sabaparking.co.uk/app</u>

Ends

Notes to Editors

Car parking charges are being introduced at the following sites: Albrighton, Coleshill Parkway, Droitwich Spa, Hagley, Henley-in-Arden, Ledbury, Park Street, Shenstone, Shifnal

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<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.

West Midlands Trains operates 1,300 services a day, manages 150 stations and provides over 70 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 <u>www.abellio.com</u>

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