



West Midlands Railway managers meet Chase Line passengers at Cannock

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Chance for Chase Line passengers to have their say

Passengers using the popular Chase Line between Rugeley Trent Valley and Birmingham New Street will have the chance to discuss the service with West Midlands Railway bosses later this month.

A drop-in 'Meet The Manager' session will be held at the Lea Hall Social Club, next to Rugeley Town station, on Friday 13 September.

The event follows a similar session at Cannock station last night (Mon 1 Sep),

where West Midlands Railway managers spoke to dozens of passengers and local councillors about Chase Line services.

Brenda Lawrence, head of stations for West Midlands Railway, said:

“Our May timetable changes brought new journey opportunities across the network but we fully accept performance on the Chase Line needs to improve. These sessions will allow us to explain to passengers face-to-face what we are doing to address performance.

“We have established a taskforce to work on the service and we are already seeing the benefits. However passengers in the West Midlands are still feeling the knock-on effects of problems further south so there is more that needs to be done and we will explain what steps we are taking.”

The drop-in session at Rugeley on Friday 13 September will run from 2pm to 7.30pm.

A separate 'Meet The Manager' session - part of the West Midlands Railway Whistle Stop Tour - will take place at Birmingham New Street station on Monday 16 September from 7.45am to 6.15pm.

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 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 www.abellio.com

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