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Designs for revamped Perry Barr station unveiled

This image shows how the outdated Perry Barr railway station in Birmingham will be transformed as part of the wider regeneration of the area.

The development of a new rail and bus interchange will see a landmark new station building constructed offering passengers a welcoming, accessible and safe environment.

It will feature new lighting, CCTV, accessible toilets, covered waiting areas, live travel information screens, lifts to the platforms and a drop-off area for

taxis and disabled blue badge holders.

The new building replaces the current 1960s-built station entrance squeezed between shops. There will be improved pedestrian links to a redesigned bus interchange outside the One Stop Shopping Centre.

A new access for buses only will ease congestion, speed up pick-up and dropping off for passengers and improve journey times, including those using the proposed new Sprint rapid bus transit service between Birmingham and Walsall.

Development of the bus and rail interchange is due to take place as part of the wider £500 million regeneration of Perry Barr, which includes the Athletes Village, changes to the road network and introduction of Sprint rapid transit buses.

These are all due to be completed in time for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games when around 6,500 athletes and officials from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories will be located at the Village and thousands of spectators will flock to the Alexander Stadium to watch the athletics and the official opening and closing ceremonies for the Games.

The project is being led by the West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE) and Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), part of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) in partnership with Birmingham City Council, Network Rail and West Midlands Trains.

Malcolm Holmes, executive director of the WMRE and director of rail for TfWM, said:

"Perry Barr railway station is rightly seen by many as unattractive and unsafe and this redevelopment is long overdue.

"I would urge everyone who lives, works or travels through the area to look at our plans, attend our events, ask questions and send in their comments."

Phil Edwards, assistant director for Transport and Connectivity at Birmingham City Council, said:

"The railway station and bus interchange are important parts of the Perry Barr redevelopment project, improving connectivity across Birmingham and serving a growing population, so it is important that as many people as possible have their say on these plans."

The public have a chance to have their say on the proposed new railway station and bus interchange by visiting www.tfwm.org.uk/perrybarr and completing the online survey by Saturday 7 December.

There are also two drop-in engagement sessions:

Tuesday 19 November: Doug Ellis Sports Centre, Moor Lane, 2pm-8pm

Tuesday 26 November: One Stop Shopping Centre, Perry Barr 10am-5pm

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, Abelllio 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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