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## Kings Langley station to become accessible for all

Passengers at Kings Langley station will benefit from funding to introduce vital upgrades to provide step free access to and from all platforms.

The station has been chosen to benefit from Department for Transport (DfT) 'Access for All' programme funding.

The station will, subject to a feasible design being possible, receive an accessible route into the station, as well as to and between every platform. This will involve the installation of lifts, but also work to improve other

features such as handrails and treads on staircases.

Once plans and final costs have been agreed, work is due to be carried out by March 2024.

Jonny Wiseman, customer experience director for London Northwestern Railway, said: "We are committed to making our stations and services accessible to everyone. It is important that our stations are brought up to modern standards, and the DfT Access for All funding continues to be a vital part of this ongoing transformation.

"We want to thank everyone who supported our bids, and we will work closely with our partners to ensure the improvements being planned will provide facilities that can benefit passengers for years to come."

Patrick Cawley, director of route sponsorship at Network Rail, said: "While millions of pounds has already been spent making stations more accessible for passengers across the West Midlands and beyond, there is still work to do. We welcome the announcement by the Department for Transport on the latest stations to benefit from the 'Access for All' funding and we will work closely with London Northwestern Railway to help deliver these improvements."

DfT Access for All funding is already supporting railway station improvements across the network. Work is currently ongoing at Tring to install step free access to all platforms and to improve the footbridge which gives access to the station's five platforms.

Across the country, 73 railway stations will be receiving funding. This is in addition to 24 station projects that are currently ongoing.

For more information on the Department for Transport Access for All programme go to <a href="https://bit.ly/2K86f5l">https://bit.ly/2K86f5l</a>

## **ENDS**

## **About West Midlands Trains**

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 www.abellio.com

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