

Mar 19, 2018 07:49 GMT

No trains between Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Birmingham this morning

Following damage to the overhead line equipment near Sutton Coldfield, trains on the 'Cross City' line will only run between Redditch/Longbridge and Birmingham New Street. There will be no trains between Lichfield/Four Oaks and Birmingham New Street until further notice while Network Rail engineers carry out repairs.

While the service is suspended, West Midlands Trains has arranged the following alternatives for passengers:

- 4 minibuses will shuttle between Lichfield Trent Valley and Lichfield City
- 16 coaches will shuttle between Lichfield City and Sutton Coldfield, calling at Shenstone, Blake Street, Butlers Lane and Four Oaks
- Rail tickets will be accepted on National Express West Midlands bus services 14, 65, 67, X3, X4, X5 & X14 between Wylde Green, Chester Road, Erdington, Gravelly Hill, Aston, Duddeston and Birmingham city centre

Any passengers delayed by 15 minutes or more can claim Delay Repay compensation online at westmidlandsrailway.co.uk/delayrepay

A spokesman for West Midlands Railways has apologised for the disruption: "Network Rail engineers have been working in freezing conditions throughout the night to repair the damage, so that the line can reopen as quickly as possible. In the meantime, please accept our sincere apologies for the obvious inconvenience this disruption is causing; we appreciate that it's not the best start to the week for our Cross City passengers."

Notes to editors

For further information on West Midlands Trains, London Northwestern Railway or West Midlands Railway call our **newsroom** on **03300 955150**.

About West Midlands Trains

West Midlands Trains Ltd. will be running the West Midlands rail franchise from 10 December 2017 until 2025/6. Abellio has a 70.1% share of the company, East Japan Railway Company (JRE) and Mitsui & Co., Ltd. (Mitsui) own the remaining 29.9% in a 50:50 split.

About Abellio

Abellio is the international passenger transport subsidiary of the Dutch national railway company, Nederlandse Spoorwegen. Every day our people provide rail, bus and tram services to 1.7m customers across the UK, Germany and in the Netherlands. In the UK we operate buses through Abellio London, as well as ScotRail and Greater Anglia train services, and Merseyrail in a joint venture with Serco. In Germany we operate Abellio Deutschland, serving communities in North Rhine Westfalia, Saxony, Lower Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Hesse and Thuringia. Our role in transport extends beyond the journey from a-to-b. With our international heritage and our policy of sharing best practice, not just amongst ourselves, but across the wider transport industry, we provide thought leadership and truly innovative ideas which make a positive contribution to the communities we serve. For more information on Abellio visit www.abellio.com

About Mitsui

Mitsui is one of the most diversified and comprehensive trading, investment and service enterprises in the world with 139 offices in 66 countries as of March, 2017. Utilising our global operating locations, network and information resources, we are multilaterally pursuing business that ranges from product sales, worldwide logistics and financing, through to the development of major international infrastructure and other projects in the following fields: Iron & Steel Products, Mineral & Metal Resources, Infrastructure Projects, Integrated Transportation Systems, Chemicals, Energy, Food Resources, Food Products & Services, Consumer Services, IT & Communication, and Corporate Development Business. Mitsui is actively

taking on challenges for global business innovation around the world. For more information, visit www.mitsui.com.

About JR East

East Japan Railway Company (JR East) was established in 1987, when Japanese National Railways was divided as part of a package of railway reforms. JR East's railway business covers a 7,500 km (approx. 4,660 miles) network in the eastern part of the Japanese main island, including Tokyo Metropolitan area, and provides transportation services, comprising urban, suburban and high speed operations, for 17 million passengers on a daily basis. JR East also undertakes non-transport commercial activities, which account for more than 30% of the total revenue of JR East Group. JR East contributes to passengers and communities it serves by delivering high degrees of punctuality, reliability and comfort and also continues to pursue higher levels of safety and service quality through technical innovation. For more information, visit www.jreast.co.jp/e.

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