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Passengers warned of delays on Marston Vale Line as level crossing malfunctions

Passengers using the Marston Vale Line between Bedford and Bletchley are being advised to leave extra time for their journeys on Friday (Feb 28) while engineers repair a faulty level crossing.

A shuttle train service will be in operation between Bletchley and Ridgmont but rail replacement buses will serve stations between Bedford and Ridgmont while Network Rail engineers fix the issue.

Lawrence Bowman, customer experience director for London Northwestern Railway, which operates services on the Marston Vale Line, said:

"We apologise to our customers for the disruption to their journeys for the rest of the evening and on Friday while Network Rail works to fix the level crossing.

"The safety of our passengers and staff is of paramount importance and we cannot allow trains to run until the level crossing barrier is properly repaired which is expected to take some time.

"Passengers are advised to check live travel information before setting out and to leave more time for their journeys, particularly if they are travelling between Bedford and Ridgmont."

Any passengers delayed by 15 minutes or more as a result of the issue can claim compensation via the Delay Repay scheme at www.lnr.uk/delayrepay

For the latest travel information visit www.lnr.uk/plan

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 80 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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Contacts



Press Office
Press Contact
03300 955150

Andrew McGill
Press Contact
Media Relations Manager
andrew.mcgill@wmtrains.co.uk