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Railway reopens after successful bank holiday upgrades are completed on time

London Euston station reopened today (Tuesday 28 August) after the second stage of work to replace North Wembley junction was completed. The junction is one of the busiest in Europe and replacing it will mean a more reliable service for passenger and freight services.

Passengers are being reminded that to complete the replacement, the line and London Euston station will be closed to trains for the third and final time this weekend (**1-2 September**).

The railway line between Birmingham International and Rugby has also fully reopened after work over the bank holiday weekend.

400m of track was renewed in Canley, Coventry and work continued on a £5m drainage project in Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, to reduce the risk of flooding on the line between Birmingham International and Coventry.

Martin Frobisher, route managing director at Network Rail, said: “This work is part of our ongoing Railway Upgrade Plan which will provide customers with a better railway. There is never a good time to carry out work that affects services, but we worked closely with the train operators for it to cause the least amount of disruption. I would like to thank passengers for their understanding while we complete these vital upgrades.”

Andrew Conroy, customer experience director for London Northwestern Railway said: “We put a lot of work into making sure that people who had to travel this weekend could keep moving. While we would all have preferred to be running a full train service , our customers responded well and we should also thank those who heeded the message to travel on alternative days.”

Peter Broadley, executive director for customer, operations and safety at Virgin Trains on the west coast, said: “We’d like to thank customers for bearing with us during the significant disruption caused by these renewals works.”

Passengers can plan their journeys and check before they travel on the National Rail Enquires website at www.nationalrail.co.uk.

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 operate 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 operate 1,300 services a day, manage 150 stations and provide 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 operate 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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