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## **Worcestershire, Herefordshire and South Staffordshire rail passengers to benefit from additional services from May**

Rail passengers across Worcestershire, Hereford and South Staffordshire will benefit from additional services and later services operating from May.

West Midlands Railway is introducing a new timetable from 19 May, with enhanced weekday evening timetables for travellers to and from Birmingham's railway stations. The changes will benefit passengers travelling for both work and leisure – including those using rail services during evenings and weekends.

The new timetable will see three trains an hour operating between Birmingham Snow Hill and Kidderminster throughout the whole day.

Services between Kidderminster and Worcester will also see an improvement, with additional evening services from 1900 onwards.

On the route between Birmingham New Street, Worcester and Hereford, a new 1850 service will be introduced from Birmingham.

Richard Brooks, customer experience director for West Midlands Railway, said: “The new timetable will mean changes to the number of trains and the formation of some of our services, so we are advising all customers to plan ahead and check their train times ahead of 19 May.

“The additional evening services being introduced throughout the week are the first major step we have been able to take to improve connectivity across the West Midlands and wider rail network. This will open up new opportunities for passengers to use the train for both work and leisure, whatever time of day they need to travel.

“Further timetable improvements and new trains are set to be introduced in 2021, with a 25% increase in capacity on our services as a result.”

The new timetable will operate from Sunday 19 May. There will be changes to the time and formation of some services, so passengers are advised to check their train times and to plan ahead for the changes. The new timetable is now live on journey planning systems and can be found at [www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk)

**ENDS**

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**\*For information on how other parts of the West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway networks will benefit from our new timetable, see the related content associated with this release.**

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email [press.office@wmtrains.co.uk](mailto:press.office@wmtrains.co.uk)

## 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 [westmidlandsrailway.co.uk](https://www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk) or [londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk](https://www.londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk)

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](https://www.abellio.com)

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