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Changes to journeys between Oxfordshire and Birmingham this weekend

Passengers travelling between Oxfordshire and Birmingham are being warned of changes to services this Sunday (19 January).

Due to planned maintenance and improvement work, the railway will be closed on Sunday 19 January between Bicester North/Banbury and Birmingham Moor Street and between Leamington Spa and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Network Rail's teams will be working to improve drainage, cut back vegetation, inspect and maintain tunnels, and complete track maintenance to help keep the railway and journeys safe and reliable for passengers and freight services.

The essential work will affect Chiltern Railways, West Midlands Railway and CrossCountry and journeys will take longer than usual with bus replacement services in operation.

Neil Gaskin, programme director for Network Rail Central route, said: "I am sorry for the disruption caused while we complete this essential work. We know there is never a good time to close the railway but this work has been carefully planned to keep disruption to a minimum while delivering the most future benefits for passengers and freight.

"If you're planning to travel, please plan ahead and check before you travel for the latest journey information and travel advice."

Jonny Wiseman, customer experience director at West Midlands Railway, said: "We are grateful for our passengers' patience while Network Rail complete essential engineering works this Sunday. Rail replacement buses will be in place between Stratford-upon-Avon, Dorridge, Whitlocks End and Snow Hill, and we recommend passengers check their journey before travelling."

Passengers should check www.nationalrail.co.uk for the latest journey information and travel advice.

About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, 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 Main Line to

and from London Euston.

- **West Midlands Railway** services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street and Birmingham Snow Hill.

For more information on these services visit westmidlandsrailway.co.uk or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

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