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Major Christmas upgrades completed at Lichfield Trent Valley

Major improvements have been carried out at Lichfield Trent Valley station over Christmas to improve future rail journeys for passengers on the Cross City line.

The West Coast main line reopened on Wednesday 27 December after a new platform bridge was installed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day during the annual festive shutdown of the railway.

Engineers worked round-the-clock using a 650-tonne crane to lift the new

40-metre-long bridge deck into place ready for trains to serve Lichfield Trent Valley station once again before the end of the year.

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The old bridge which carried trains over the top of the West Coast main line was removed in the summer, meaning that for the last six months the Cross City line has been stopping short at Lichfield City station.

The complex engineering project is being delivered as part of a £5.8m investment to improve future journeys on this important rail route through the West Midlands.

Federica Labanca, principal route engineer for Network Rail, said: “We’re really grateful to passengers for bearing with us while we upgraded the bridge at Lichfield Trent Valley station as part of our Christmas improvements and look forward to reopening platform 3 on the Cross City line this weekend.

“Although the majority of our festive upgrades are complete, I want to remind passengers travelling across the Midlands to check before they travel on New Year’s Day when we will be carrying out essential track work between Birmingham and Coventry to make journeys more reliable. Our advice is to plan your journey in advance by using National Rail Enquiries.”

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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