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West Midlands Railway stations get set for Commonwealth Games

West Midlands Railway is getting Games-ready. Birmingham Snow Hill along with Birmingham's other two main stations - have started their Commonwealth Games preparation ahead of a huge summer of sport in the West Midlands.

Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games branding has been put up across New Street, Moor Street and Snow Hill stations to be ready for the Games – and passengers are being urged to be Games-ready too.

More than a million extra passenger journeys are predicted during the 12

days of the Games and Birmingham's rail network will provide a hub for journeys, welcoming regional, national and international sports fans to the West Midlands.

To get ready for the Games, passengers should be prepared for West Midlands Railway services to be busy throughout the Commonwealth Games, to plan their journeys, check before they travel and allow extra time as queuing systems may be in use.

The Commonwealth Games logo and branding will help kick-start the excitement for passengers and spectators ahead of arriving at sports venues, and teams of station staff and volunteers will be on hand to provide everyone with a warm welcome to the city.

Patrick Power, head of customer strategy and performance for Network Rail's Central route, said:

"With just 30 days to go until the opening ceremony, seeing the Commonwealth Games branding in these stations is really increasing anticipation and excitement levels.

"We are working hard to make sure the railway is Games-ready and are encouraging passengers to be prepared too so everyone can really enjoy this once in a lifetime summer of sport."

Trains and stations across the West Midlands are expected to be very busy during the Games. As well as the three main stations in Birmingham, stations outside Birmingham city centre - including Birmingham International, Perry Barr, University and Leamington Spa – are expected to be much busier too.

Passengers can get the latest travel information and plan their journeys using train operator websites or at <u>www.nationalrail.co.uk</u>

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<u>westmidlandsrailway.co.uk</u> or <u>londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk</u>

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