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West Midlands Railway thanks passengers as lift upgrade works completed at The Hawthorns

Passengers are being thanked for their patience after lifts at The Hawthorns station in the Black Country reopened following a major overhaul.

Over the last three months both lifts to platforms have been taken out, mechanisms modernised, and new lighting installed. A total of £450,000 has been invested in the comprehensive lift upgrade.

It's part of Network Rail and the wider rail industry's priority to make stations

more accessible for everyone. The improved lifts will benefit passengers when they return once coronavirus travel restrictions can be eased.

Tom Wadsworth, senior asset engineer at Network Rail, said:

“I understand the work on the lifts has been disruptive for passengers over the last few months and I’d like to thank people for bearing with us. I hope the improvements speak for themselves and the more modern, brighter lifts make a real difference to people’s journeys with better more reliable step-free access to platforms.”

Brenda Lawrence, head of stations for West Midlands Railway, said:

“Making sure the railway is accessible for all is our top priority and I am delighted our customers at The Hawthorns can now benefit from smarter, upgraded lifts.

“With fewer people currently using the railway this was a good time to make these improvements but I would like to thank our customers who have been making essential journeys during the work for their patience and understanding.”

The lift upgrade programme started in December and from today (26 March) the lifts are now fully reopen for passengers. For more information visit www.networkrail.co.uk/access-for-all

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 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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