

# *CfR* NEWS ARCHIVE 2022

27 May 2022

**Engineering Works affect Snow Hill line service from 20 to 23 June 2022**



The railway line between Birmingham Snow Hill and Tyseley will be closed between Monday 20 and Thursday 23 June to enable major track work to be undertaken to improve passenger journeys for the Commonwealth Games. The work will overhaul switches and crossings - moving sections of track which allow trains to access and leave the train maintenance depot at Tyseley in Birmingham.

As a result, services east of Snow Hill will operate as follows, with replacement bus services connecting these services to Snow Hill.

- Hourly service between Spring Road and Stratford-upon-Avon via Whitlocks End.
- Hourly service between Acocks Green and Stratford-upon-Avon via Dorridge.
- Hourly off-peak service between Dorridge and Marylebone increasing to half hourly in the morning and evening peaks.

Birmingham Moor Street station will be closed over the four days to enable a deep clean to take place.

On the Stourbridge line, every West Midlands Railway service will operate at the same times as normal but will only operate between Worcester/Kidderminster and Birmingham Snow Hill.

Chiltern Railway will operate the services at 0641 from Stourbridge Junction and 0807 from Kidderminster but these will also terminate at Snow Hill. The 0716 service from Stourbridge Junction will not operate. In the evening, the only Chiltern service to operate over the line will be the 2315 departure from Snow Hill to Stourbridge Junction.

**13 July 2022**  
**Timetable Changes in December 2022 and 2023**



Major changes have been announced on all services from London Euston to destinations on the West Coast Main Line which will come into effect in December 2022. This will mean that changes will also be made to services in the West Midlands which use the Coventry to Wolverhampton corridor.

Additional changes will be made during 2023, with a revised timetable being introduced on Birmingham Snow Hill services from May 2023, and new services to be introduced to serve brand new stations when they open (provisionally in December 2023).

The changes that affect services in the West Midlands area are summarised below.

**Avanti West Coast Services from London Euston (December 2022)**

- A consistent half-hourly fast service will operate between London Euston and Birmingham New Street, using refurbished Pendolinos and calling at Coventry and Birmingham International only. The fastest journey times between London and Birmingham will be 1 hour 16 minutes.
- One train per hour will extend to the North West and Scotland and will call additionally at Stafford. These services will be operated with refurbished Pendolinos, and five-car Voyagers will no longer be used on this route.
- A third service per hour, using new Hitachi trains, will operate between London Euston and Birmingham New Street and will call additionally at Watford Junction, Milton Keynes and Rugby.
- North Wales services will call at Stafford instead of Milton Keynes Central, with the Milton Keynes call moved to the Liverpool service. Liverpool services will no longer call at Stafford.
- The new Liverpool Lime Street service, with a phased introduction to provide 2 trains per hour, will provide regular off-peak calls at Lichfield and Tamworth to and from London Euston and Liverpool Lime Street for the first time.
- Minor journey time extensions to the Manchester Piccadilly service will facilitate additional calls at Rugby, Nuneaton, and Stafford.



### **West Midlands Train Services in The West Midlands (December 2022)**

- Two trains per hour, 30 minutes apart, will operate between Birmingham New Street, Northampton and London Euston calling all stations between Birmingham International and Coventry. Both services call at Milton Keynes Central, Bletchley and Leighton Buzzard, with one calling at Watford Junction.
- Two trains per hour, 30 minutes apart, will operate between Rugeley Trent Valley, Birmingham New Street and Birmingham International. Both trains will call at all stations between Stechford and Birmingham International with one calling at Adderley Park.
- Two trains per hour will operate between Walsall and Birmingham New Street linked to the Wolverhampton local service, forming a 15 minute combined service with the Rugeley service.
- One train per hour will operate between Shrewsbury and Birmingham New Street. These services will call at Smethwick Galton Bridge rather than Sandwell & Dudley. The hourly Transport for Wales service between Birmingham International and Aberystwyth, Pwllheli or Holyhead will call at Sandwell & Dudley rather than Smethwick Galton Bridge giving an improved spread of stops. However, this means that there will be no direct service to Birmingham International or Mid and North Wales from Smethwick Galton Bridge, thus inconveniencing the many passengers on Snow Hill line services who use this station as an interchange station.
- One train per hour will operate between Liverpool Lime Street and Birmingham New Street. Services will continue to call at Smethwick Galton Bridge but not Coseley (as per Covid timetables). However, Liverpool services will call at Dudley Port rather than Smethwick Galton Bridge when the Metro extension to Dudley opens (provisionally in 2024). Once again, this will cause great inconvenience to Snow Hill lines passengers who will lose a single stop connection to the North West.
- Timetable structure allows for a return to two trains per hour on a 30-min pattern on both the Birmingham New Street to Shrewsbury and Birmingham New Street to Liverpool Lime Street services, aligned to demand recovery.
- One train per hour will operate between Nuneaton, Coventry and Leamington Spa.





### **West Midlands Trains and Chiltern Railways Services on the Snow Hill Lines (May 2023)**

- Although remaining at 4 trains per hour, a more robust timetable will be introduced to reduce the level of late running services.
- Kidderminster terminating services will become semi-fast.
- Worcester terminating services will become all stations.
- One train per hour to Worcester will be direct to Foregate Street, while the other will terminate at Foregate Street via Shrub Hill.
- Dorridge and Whitlocks End routes will be retimed to 30 minute intervals rather than 20/40 minutes.
- Improved integration with Chiltern services giving improved service for Solihull.
- Chiltern Railways are proposing to restore a full 2 trains per hour service between Birmingham and London Marylebone on weekdays. Service levels for weekends are currently under review.
- The 2-hourly Chiltern Railways service between Birmingham Moor Street and Leamington Spa is withdrawn, and additional calls will be made at Dorridge, Lapworth, Hatton and Warwick on their services to London Marylebone.

### **West Midlands Trains New Services from December 2023 (Provisional date)**

- A new hourly Wolverhampton to Walsall service will be introduced once new stations at Willenhall and Darlaston open. At the same time, Birmingham New Street to Crewe (via Stoke-on-Trent) services will also call at Willenhall and Darlaston providing two trains per hour from the new stations.
- A new service will be introduced on the Camp Hill line in South Birmingham between Birmingham New Street and King's Norton serving new stations at Moseley Village, Kings Heath and Pineapple Road.