

Mr Ian Ambrose  
Chair, Friends of the Derwent Valley Line  
51 Oakerthorpe Road  
Bolehill  
Wirksworth  
Derbyshire DE4 4GP

21 May 2009

Dear Ian,

## **Frequency of trains at Cromford and Whatstandwell**

As you will be aware, we undertook to review the decision not to stop certain trains at Cromford and Whatstandwell stations following the introduction of the new hourly Matlock-Nottingham service last December. I have now completed this review and I am writing to let you know the outcome.

East Midlands Trains is delighted by the increase in patronage at the stations where we have increased the frequency to hourly and provided direct services to Nottingham. We have seen an increase in passenger journeys from these stations of around 30% since the timetable change.

Since the introduction of the new timetable, East Midlands Trains has also achieved a significant improvement in the punctuality of our Derwent Valley Line services, with PPM rising from 85.8% to 91.1% for the first four months of 2009 compared to the same period in 2008. This improvement reflects the benefit of our rolling stock modification programme, Right Time Railway initiative and the re-structuring of the timetable.

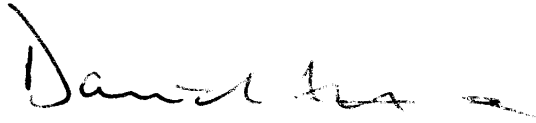
We have therefore decided that the operational robustness of the new timetable is sufficient so that we can now stop all trains at Cromford and Whatstandwell without a detrimental impact on punctuality. We are planning to add these additional stops to the timetable from December 2009.

In view of the strength of feeling which there has been towards the introduction of hourly services at Cromford and Whatstandwell, it would be appreciated if the FDVL could help to promote the extra stops so that we achieve the increase in rail usage from Cromford and Whatstandwell that we are seeking.

We plan to make a public announcement regarding this decision on Thursday 28 May, to coincide with the Arkwright Society's official opening of Cromford Railway

Station and Waiting Room. Please could I ask you not to make any public statement about our decision until then.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Horne', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Horne  
Commercial Director

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