

12 February 2009

Mr Alastair Morley  
Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership  
Derbyshire County Council  
Environmental Services  
County Hall  
Matlock  
Derbyshire DE4 3AG



Dear Alastair

### **May 2009 Timetable Consultation response**

Thank you for your recent response to the consultation document outlining proposed changes to the timetable to be implemented in May 2009. At East Midlands Trains we welcome the opinion and views of our stakeholders, allowing us to work in partnership to maintain and develop sustainable rail services.

The introduction of our new timetable in December 2008 saw the delivery of many core aims of stakeholders, including faster journey times between Sheffield and London, increased trains per hour into London (from four to five), a new direct service from Lincoln to London, new Sunday services on the Robin Hood line and a large number of other improvements. Since the introduction of our new timetable on 14 December, we have been monitoring its performance and initial indications show that operating performance has improved in line with our expectations. Whilst monitoring of the new timetable is still ongoing, our ability to undertake any major changes to our base timetable is limited.

Where we have found specific issues with services we have attempted to take early action to respond to the situation, rather than wait until May 2009, an example of this is the strengthening of the 06.14 from Boston to Nottingham, between Grantham and Nottingham.

A specific concern has been raised concerning evening stops at Bedford from London, and this is subject to a separate local user consultation, the results of which will be considered for inclusion in future timetable changes.

Each of the consultation responses has been reviewed to provide the widest overall benefit to the majority of customers and to address specific concerns, where an economic or social case has been proven to exist and is viable.

Therefore, in addition to the changes outlined in the consultation document, the following will be taken forward in the May 2009 timetable:

- The 07.44 from Sheffield to London the 'South Yorkshireman' will be retimed to depart at 07.41 and will call at Chesterfield at 07.54. A range of Off Peak tickets are valid on the South Yorkshireman allowing a wider choice of cheaper journeys from Sheffield and Chesterfield.
- We have asked the Department for Transport for permission to withdraw the 07.40 from Nottingham to Derby, allowing us to run the 07.37 from Matlock to Nottingham earlier from Derby as it will no longer have to wait at Derby to attach to the incoming train from Nottingham. This will allow us to get this train to Nottingham at 08.49.

As part of this proposal we will insert a Spondon stop in the 07.20 from Nottingham to Matlock. If we receive permission in time we will implement this change from May 2009.

- The 21.00 from London St Pancras to Derby will call additionally at Loughborough, this will fill the gap between 20.30 and 21.25 departures from London.
- To improve day trip journey opportunities, off peak stops at Aslockton will be moved from the 10.15, onto the 09.05 (09.15 on Saturdays), Skegness to Nottingham service, and from the 12.45, onto the 13.45 Nottingham to Skegness service.
- On a trial basis for 2009, on Summer Sundays, the 08.37 from Mansfield Woodhouse to Nottingham will run through to Skegness, and the 18.07 Skegness to Nottingham will run through to Mansfield Woodhouse. This will give Robin Hood Line passengers a through train for a day out in Skegness.
- On Mondays to Fridays the 10.15 Skegness to Nottingham and the 12.45 Nottingham to Skegness will call at Ancaster to improve the opportunities for off peak days out.

Our draft timetable has now been submitted to Network Rail and we should receive a final 'proof' timetable in late February. We are happy to supply a copy to you upon request, via email, please indicate which timetable you would like:

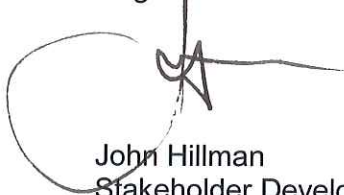
Timetable 1 – services between Sheffield, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester and London St. Pancras

Timetable 2 – services between Liverpool to Norwich

Timetable 3 – services between Nottingham to Worksop, Derby to Crewe via Stoke-on-Trent, Matlock to Derby and Nottingham and Sheffield to Nottingham

Timetable 4 – services between Lincoln to Leicester via Nottingham, Cleethorpes to Lincoln, Peterborough to Doncaster via Lincoln, Nottingham to Skegness

Regards



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