



Community Relations
Western House
1 Holbrook Way
Swindon
SN1 1BD

**24 hour National Helpline
03457 11 41 41**

Our reference: BHL 66m 55ch

4 July 2018

Dear Neighbour

Bedwyn siding extension

As part of our Railway Upgrade Plan, we will shortly begin improvement work on the railway near your property. We will be extending the section of track at Bedwyn which allows the train to stop and reverse direction (known as a siding).

This will enable Great Western Railway (GWR) to run new, quieter and more environmentally friendly trains with more seats between Bedwyn and London Paddington.

Why do we need to undertake this work?

GWR is undertaking the largest train fleet upgrade in a generation, and they will run new five-car bi-mode trains (which can operate on both electric and diesel power) between Paddington and Bedwyn. These longer Intercity Express Trains (IETs) will enable GWR to retain through services to Paddington from Bedwyn, which otherwise would have been lost and replaced with a diesel shuttle service to Newbury. In this situation, passengers would have needed to change trains to access other destinations.

The IETs provide more seats and tables in standard class, efficient air conditioning systems and a digital reservation system. These will all help to give passengers a more comfortable journey. At peak times, to supplement the through service, there will be existing diesel trains operating to Newbury alongside the new IETs.

In order to enable the introduction of the IETs, we need to extend the existing siding at Bedwyn and close the existing pedestrian foot crossing (see attached diagram). The pedestrian foot crossing will be moved 10 metres west to a new permanent location.

Safety – See something suspicious? Contact British Transport Police 0800 405040.



When will we be carrying out this work?

We will be setting up our site compound over the weekend of the 25 and 26 August and preparation work will continue during Monday 27. The construction work will start at 00:40 on **Tuesday 28 August** and finish at 04:55 on **Friday 31 August**.

The old level crossing will be permanently closed on the night of Monday 27 August 2018 (22:00) and the new level crossing will open on the morning of Friday 31 August 2018 (08:00).

As we will have an engineering train and a number of vehicles in the area some noise may be experienced. However, we have planned our work so that the noisiest work will take place during the day, between 0800 and 1900, and quieter work such as installing new signalling equipment, testing and commissioning will take place overnight.

How will we manage the impacts on the travelling public and our neighbours?

The nature of our work often means some disturbance is unavoidable, but please be assured that every effort will be made to minimise any unnecessary noise and we have reminded all staff to be considerate of our neighbours.

We have planned the works to take place during an existing planned closure of the line between Reading and Newbury for electrification works. A rail replacement bus service will be available from Bedwyn and full details are available at **GWR.com/Newbury2018**.

Contact us

I hope this information is helpful and we apologise for any inconvenience this essential upgrade may cause.

However, if you have any additional questions or concerns about the work taking place in your area please call our dedicated 24-hour National Helpline on 03457 11 41 41, visit networkrail.co.uk/contactus or email crwest@networkrail.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Community Relations Executive

Enc Bedwyn siding extension plan

Safety – See something suspicious? Contact British Transport Police 0800 405040.

Bedwyn siding extension Proposed plan

