|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The Occupier | Community Relations  Western House  1 Holbrook Way  Swindon  SN1 1BD  **24 hour National Helpline**  **03457 11 41 41** |

11 April 2018

Our reference **GWRM MLN 56m 38ch**

Dear Neighbour

**Parapets Modification – Steventon**

We are electrifying the Great Western railway to deliver more reliable, greener and quieter journeys for thousands of passengers.

Electrifying the Great Western will improve one of Britain’s busiest and oldest railways, better connecting major towns and cities across southern England and South Wales. It will make journeys smoother and more comfortable for passengers as well as quieter for people living near the railway, providing more seats, reducing costs as well as stimulating economic growth in the region.

**Why do we need to undertake this work?**

In order to facilitate the electrification of the railway near to your property it is essential that we raise the height of the sides of the bridge (called parapets) on Steventon High Street Bridge to 1.8 metres for added safety protection, and to comply with European standards.

In order to achieve this, we need to raise the existing parapets using a steel railing extension. To carry out the works safely we need to implement a lane closure when works are being carried out.

Safety is our number one priority and for this reason work of this type must be carried out while trains are not running. Under our license conditions we are contractually obliged to work, whenever possible, at times that cause the least disruption to train services. Unfortunately, this means carrying out a lot of our improvements during the night and at weekends. The equipment we use means some disturbance is unavoidable, but we will make every effort to minimise any unnecessary noise. Furthermore, those working on site are briefed on working responsibly in the local community.

**When will the work take place?**

Work commences on site on 30 April – 25 May 2018. A full detail of our work schedule is attached to this letter.

Pedestrian access will remain possible throughout the duration of the works.

It is worth noting that we may not be working every single shift during this period and therefore this is a general outlook to the period mentioned above.

**How will we manage the impact on our neighbours?**

We recognise that construction work on the railway can be disruptive to those living or working nearby. The nature of our work often means some disturbance is unavoidable, but please be assured that every effort is made to minimise any unnecessary noise and we have reminded all staff to be considerate to our neighbours.

**Contact us**

I hope this information is helpful and we apologise for any inconvenience these essential works 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](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/contactus) or email crwest@networkrail.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Community Relations Executive

Work Schedule

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dates** | **Work scheduled** | **Notes** |
| Monday 30 April – Friday 25 May 2018 | Work starts on site to raise the height of the sides of the bridge. | Our working hours are 22:00 – 06:00 |