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15/08/2025

West Midlands Trains Limited formal response to Network Rail Representations for the 32nd Supplemental Agreement.

In response to the representation to the 32nd Supplemental Agreement West Midlands Trains wishes to respond and provide its response to the representation made by Network Rail in its assessment of capacity, namely it's High-Level plan and Capacity Assessment of Interacting Rights.

West Midlands Trains wishes to clarify several points raised by Network Rail.

- Coventry to Birmingham New Street (3.26): WMT apply to increase Weekday Rights from 1 to 2, but NR notes that there is only 1 service in the December 2025 timetable: 2C01 05:33 ex Coventry. Therefore, an additional right is not required to support the December 2025 timetable.
 - *The Second right in use between Coventry and Birmingham New Street is used by a single 1 Birmingham International – Birmingham New street service, this was originally a Coventry starter, it is the intention to amend the schedule 5 tables to reflect this and West Midlands Trains is already in discussion with Network Rail regarding this, however if Network Rail wishes to amend its decision to only grant the firm right between Birmingham International and Birmingham New Street this would be beneficial to both parties.*

Service	Total Available	Total Used
Coventry - Birmingham New Street	2	1 (2C01)
Birmingham International – Birmingham New Street	33	34 31 x Birmingham International – Rugeley Trent Valley 3 x Birmingham International – Birmingham New Street



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- London Euston to Milton Keynes Central (5.4): WMT apply to increase Saturday Rights from 27 to 28, but NR notes that there are only 27 services in the December 2025 timetable.
 - *Having checked our timetable offer we believe there to be 28 services between Euston – Milton Keynes, the headcodes are listed below.*
 - *2K99,2K03,2K05,2K07,2K09,2K11,2K13,2K15,2K17,2K19,2K21,2K23,2K25,2K27,2K29, 2K31,2K33,2K35,2K37,2K39, 2K41,2K43,2K45,2K47,2K49, 2K51,2K53, and 2K57.*
- Milton Keynes to Northampton (5.25): WMT apply to increase Weekday Rights from 1 to 3, but NR notes there is only 1 service in the December 2025 timetable: 2Y32 05:37 ex Milton Keynes. Therefore, additional rights are not required to support the December 2025 timetable.
 - *The 2nd right required is used for a Milton Keynes – Birmingham New Street service the headcodes for this is 1Y13, as for the 3rd right we agree this is not required.*
- London Euston to Northampton (5.42/110): WMT apply to increase Sunday Rights from 17 to 18, but NR notes there are only 17 services in the December 2025 timetable. Therefore, there is no requirement for the additional right.
 - *West Midlands Trains agrees that the additional 18th right is now not required.*
- Great Malvern to Worcester Shrub Hill (3.61): WMT apply to increase Saturday Rights from 0 to 2, but NR notes that there is only 1 service in the December 2025 timetable: 1B28 22:18 ex Great Malvern. NR is therefore supportive of just the 1 Right. However, NR notes there is also a 1B22 18:30 ex Great Malvern which terminates short of Shrub Hill at Worcester Foregate Street. NR therefore cannot be supportive of an additional Right to Worcester Shrub Hill. WMT will need to progress a separate application for a right between Great Malvern and Worcester Foregate Street as they have not been OFFICIAL included in the statutory consultation processes. Furthermore, this position is in line with ORR's letters to the industry dated, 01 November 2025 and titled "Rail network capacity allocation (access rights) for December 2024 to December 2025" and its letter of 07 May 2025 "New/amended rights (under the competing/complex process) from December 2025".
 - *West Midlands Trains agrees that a further consultation is required in order to allow for rights in the Worcester area to be properly aligned with the December timetable, however rather than the removal of the contingent right West Midlands Trains believes the rights sought should remain as contingent, their removal may lead to a situation where West Midlands Trains finds itself short of necessary rights, as collaborative discussions are currently ongoing we believe this to be the best and safest way to handle our request.*
- Birmingham Snow Hill to Worcester Shrub Hill (1.9): WMT apply to increase Sunday Rights from 0 to 2, but NR notes that there are 6 services in the December 2025



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timetable: 3x Stratford to Worcester Shrub Hill, 3x Birmingham Moor St to Worcester Shrub hill. Therefore, NR is not supportive of these additional rights as they do not align to the services within the timetable. Furthermore, the additional rights required will need to be progressed through a separate application because they have not been included in the statutory consultation processes. Furthermore, this position is in line with ORR's letters to the industry dated; 01 November 2025 and titled "Rail network capacity allocation (access rights) for December 2024 to December 2025" and 07 May 2025 "New/amended rights (under the competing/complex process) from December 2025". as consultation has not taken place.

- *West Midlands Trains agrees that a further consultation is required in order to allow for rights in the Worcester area to be properly aligned with the December timetable, however rather than the removal of the contingent right West Midlands Trains believes the rights sought should remain as contingent, their removal may lead to a situation where West Midlands Trains finds itself short of necessary rights, as collaborative discussions are currently ongoing we believe this to be the best and safest way to handle our request.*
- Birmingham Snow Hill to Worcester Foregate Street (1.8): WMT apply to reduce Sunday rights from 10 to 8, but NR notes that there are 9 services in the December 2025 timetable that use this right. Therefore, NR would only support a reduction of 1 Right, resulting in 9 remaining.
 - *West Midlands Trains agrees that only a 1 right requires removal rather than 2 rights.*
- Worcester Foregate Street to Birmingham Snow Hill (1.19): WMT apply to decrease Sunday Rights from 12 to 8, but NR notes that there are 10 services in the December 2025 timetable using this right. Therefore, NR would only support a reduction of 2 Rights, resulting in 10 remaining.
 - *West Midlands Trains agrees that only 2 rights require removal rather than 4 rights.*

Whilst West Midlands Trains acknowledges the process set out in front of Network Rail in relation to its representations, we believe the representation made by Network Rail requires review and needs to reflect ongoing efforts made by West Midlands Trains in its journey to correct and simplify its set of Schedule 5 tables.

Yours faithfully,

Scott Turner
Network Access Manager