

**Hector Anderson**  
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26 October 2017

Kelly Henshall  
Head of Franchise Management & Development  
London Midland  
102 New Street  
Birmingham  
B2 4HQ

Dear Ms Henshall,

**Norton Bridge station – Department for Transport request for ratification of closure**

- 1) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Norton Bridge station. Under the power granted in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (the Act), the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) **requires you, London & Birmingham Railway Limited to display the ratification notice at Norton Bridge station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.**
- 2) Please note that the notice also requires the operator of the stations in the area affected by the closure to display a copy of the closure ratification notice at those stations for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice. You, London & Birmingham Railway Limited are also required to display the notice at Barlaston, Coseley, Dudley Port, Penkridge, Sandwell and Dudley, Smethwick Galton Bridge, Smethwick Rolfe Street, Stone, Tipton and Wedgewood stations.
- 3) I have written separately to Network Rail Limited concerning the requirement to display the notice at Birmingham New Street and London Euston stations.
- 4) I have also written separately to West Coast Trains Limited concerning the requirement to display the notice at Crewe and Stafford stations.
- 5) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to the Department for Transport, the operators of the other stations and to all the parties consulted by the Department for Transport. A copy of the notice will also appear on the ORR website and will be placed on the ORR public register.
- 6) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked that the Department for Transport has:
  - a) provided ORR with the appropriate documentation;



- b) followed the consultation requirements laid down in the Act, and by the Railways Closure Guidance issued by the Secretary of State on 18 October 2006;
- c) reasonably applied the criteria for appraising such proposals, as laid out in the Railways Closure Guidance; and
- d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.

7) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We did not receive any representations in relation to the request for ratification.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hector Anderson', with a stylized, cursive script.

**Hector Anderson**