

Engineering work continues after Fisherton Tunnel collision

December 13, 2021



Network Rail engineers will be working on tracks near Salisbury station on 18 December, meaning buses will replace South Western Railway and Great Western Railway trains between Salisbury and Andover/Romsey/Southampton until early afternoon.

The work will complete repairs to the track at the junction outside Fisherton Tunnel in the city, damaged in an incident in October.

A collision between an SWR train and a GWR train on Sunday 31 October saw 14 people require hospital treatment. [Click here for more details on the crash.](#)

Track through the tunnel and across the junction had to be replaced after the incident and naturally “settled” over the following weeks as trains ran over it.

Network Rail’s route director for Wessex, Mark Killick, said: “I’m really sorry for this extra disruption so close to Christmas. When we replace track as part of our planned work, we make sure we come in a few weeks later to make sure the track is still aligned properly. In this instance, we’ve had to find a day when

there's little other work going on across the area, to keep disruption to a minimum for customers.

"Although I realise it's not ideal, there will be a bus replacement service in the morning, with trains back in the afternoon, and I'd ask customers to check before they travel."

Claire Mann, Managing Director of South Western Railway, said: "We're sorry for the short-notice changes to services through Salisbury on the Saturday before Christmas, as Network Rail carry out essential engineering works. Replacement buses will be in place between Salisbury and Andover and our customers will be able to use tickets on Great Western Railway and CrossCountry services, via any reasonable route."

Great Western Railway Managing Director, Mark Hopwood said: "We really appreciate customers' patience as the final stages of repair work is completed. We've worked closely with Network Rail and other train operators to keep disruption to a minimum, but please do check your journey before you travel."

Photo credit: Network Rail