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Rail passengers have been warned urgent repairs to the track in London will affect services across Kent and Sussex, resulting in delays and cancellations.

An article on the BBC says a 5mph speed restriction has been put in place on a set of points in the New Cross area of south-east London.

The number of trains running to and from Charing Cross will be “severely restricted” all day, Southeastern trains said.

Main contractors working on seven of Crossrail’s central London stations will be demobilised before the end of the year in a bid to keep costs down.

The article on New Civil Engineer says a schedule to wind-up Tier 1 contractor involvement at the seven most advanced stations is already in place, with “various TfL (Transport for London) units” to take over the completion of any outstanding works.

A £1million transformation of Dorchester South station has been unveiled – a decade after it was promised.

An article on the Dorset Echo says there have long been calls for improvements at the station, on Copper Street, and a plan to improve the station’s facilities has finally been announced.

Network Rail has confirmed that much of the £1million funding will be used to improve accessibility for disabled users, through the installation of more ramps and by lowering ticket windows.

Great Northern, Southern and Thameslink have announced they will shortly have publicly-accessible, life-saving automated external defibrillators (AEDs) at every one of their 238 stations, the largest roll-out of heart restarters on the UK’s rail network.

A station assistant has already used one of the devices to save a passenger’s life.

Sussex Heart Charity and other organisations supplied many of the original AEDs but the network has now been massively extended and upgraded with more defibrillators as part of a wider £15million stations improvement programme.

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Photo credit: Govia Thameslink Railway