

Southern increases capacity for passengers on busy routes in the capital

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Passengers on busy routes in London will have more space to travel when Southern and Thameslink introduce their new summer timetables from Sunday 21 May. Passengers are being urged to check the new schedules in online journey planners such as National Rail Enquiries.

The changes include a 60 per cent increase in capacity for morning peak services via Tulse Hill. To achieve this major uplift, services from East Croydon and Beckenham to London Bridge will run with an extra (sixth) carriage, and two additional services will run on Mondays to Fridays, calling at all stations from Streatham Hill to London Bridge.

West London Line passengers will gain longer trains, all services now running with five carriages instead of four. In response to passenger requests, one Watford Junction service will be extended to Hemel Hempstead.

In a local change on the Horsham to London Victoria via Hackbridge route, more peak services will call at

Ewell East. Arrival and departure times between Dorking and Cheam will be adjusted slightly.

In response to passenger requests, an additional mid-morning service will run in each direction between East Grinstead and London Victoria, with an additional late-evening train from London. Some morning departures from Uckfield to London Bridge will be lengthened from three to five carriages.

Jenny Saunders, Customer Services Director for Southern and Thameslink, said: "We're pleased to be making these adjustments to provide more seats when and where more passengers need them. The changes are designed to make the best positive difference locally, and respond to requests and suggestions from our passengers. We recommend that all our customers check for changes on their route before travelling in the week beginning 21 May."

Photo credit: GTR