

Upgrades in Bedfordshire to deliver more reliable journeys

May 4, 2022



Network Rail is upgrading infrastructure in Bedfordshire to make for more reliable journeys between London and the East Midlands

About 740m of track will be renewed between Luton and Bedford as part of ongoing improvements.

To enable this, buses will replace trains on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 May between Harpenden / Hitchin and Bedford as well as changes to services along the route.

Passengers are urged to plan ahead and check before they travel.

The project is a part of the Midland Main Line Upgrade and will eventually allow more trains to run at higher speeds thanks to overhead line electrification. This will be the second of several weekends throughout 2022 where parts of the railway need to be closed so that teams can work safely.

Gary Walsh, East Midlands route director for Network Rail, said: "I know how important it is for our passengers to get to where they need to be, on time. So, it's great to see the progress we've made so far

to ultimately bring better, faster and more reliable journeys between London and the East Midlands.

“If you’re planning to travel this weekend, please plan ahead to avoid any inconvenience as we continue this vital work.”

Neil Grabham, customer services director for EMR said: “We’re encouraging any passengers travelling to or from London this weekend to allow extra time for their journey, as there is a rail replacement service between Bedford and Hitchin.

“We would like to thank our passengers for their patience whilst the overhead line equipment between Luton and Bedford is upgraded.”