

Additional rail infrastructure work on Western Region required on the weekend of 14/15 October 2017.

Dear R Hudson - Shiplake Parish Council

I promised to keep you up to date with changes to rail services to allow for modernisation and improvement work on our network.

Over the weekend of 14-15 October, Network Rail have informed us they need to carry out further testing of overhead wires in the Reading area. This is needed so that we can extend our new electric local trains to Didcot from January, which in turn releases diesel trains to cascade to the west.

It is therefore very important that we agree to the work. It is shorter notice than usual, and we are doing all we can to let customers know of the changes.

Unfortunately, we're unable to divert into other London stations, and journeys involving stations between Reading and London will involve a replacement bus, or changing trains at Reading to Waterloo.

Some trains may not be running and journeys will be longer.

We have put a broad outline of the services impacted, which include the sleeper, on a dedicated web page www.gwr.com/reading2017

This does not yet include specific timetables. These are still being finalised with Network Rail and they should be available on line early next week. We wanted to get the message out as soon as possible however, hence my email today rather than wait for the detailed timetable plan.

Any help you can give in alerting others to the late change would be great. As we get more information on the services that will operate they will go on the website and in the first instance please direct people there.

If I can be of further help please don't hesitate to ask.

Best wishes

Mark

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