

A black silhouette of a railway track, consisting of two vertical rails connected by two horizontal cross-ties, positioned on the left side of the orange banner.

Euston enabling works, August bank holiday 2017

Stakeholder briefing

Manchester, Cheshire, Staffordshire

A black silhouette of a railway track, identical to the one on the left, positioned on the right side of the orange banner.

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Passengers urged not to travel on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August (bank holiday weekend) ahead of HS2 works at Euston

To help prepare for Britain's brand new high-speed railway and as part of the nationwide Railway Upgrade Plan, Network Rail has been contracted by HS2 Ltd to do vital pieces of work at places where the existing rail network meets the proposed new line.

As part of this, Network Rail is carrying out preparatory work for HS2 at London Euston on 26 and 27 August (over the bank holiday weekend). During this time, some key elements of the power supply infrastructure will be relocated.

This provides power to Euston station and the railway signalling. Removing this infrastructure will allow HS2 Ltd to clear the area to make way for construction of the new high speed rail line in 2018.

To allow this work to be carried out safely, at various stages, the power to the lines in and out of Euston station needs to be turned off. As a result, no trains will run in or out of Euston station on 26 and 27 August.

How will the August bank holiday work affect passengers?

In order for this work to be carried out, no trains will run to or from London Euston between 0140 on Saturday 26 August and 0400 on Monday 28 August (the bank holiday weekend). Additionally, London Midland will run a reduced service to and from London Euston until 1200 on Monday 28 August.

This will affect *all* journeys on the west coast mainline, including those where passengers are not travelling via London. Passengers are advised to travel on other days instead and avoid travel on the Saturday and Sunday, if possible.

The impact on passengers will vary depending on individual journeys. Train companies are working together to minimise disruption, however, train travel on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August might be affected in the following ways:

- Passengers might have to travel from a different station, by an alternative route, with a different train company or by using a rail replacement bus service. These routes will be extremely busy and passengers are advised to travel only if necessary.
- Some journeys will terminate short of their normal destination
- Some stations will have fewer train services

- Many services and stations will be busier than usual
- Some journeys are likely to take longer
- There may be queuing systems outside some stations
- Services on other routes over the whole bank holiday period are expected to be very busy.

Passengers are advised to visit nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks, or contact their train company for further information.

As part of an extensive construction programme, HS2 Ltd and Network Rail are working hard to keep disruption to a minimum and appreciate the understanding of all passengers who are affected by the two day closure of Euston station.

Ticket acceptance

The rail industry is working together to ensure that passengers' rail tickets can be used on reasonable alternative routes during the works at Euston station.

How have passengers been informed about the changes?

- The rail industry (including Network Rail, train companies and HS2 Ltd) has worked together to deliver an awareness raising campaign, launched in June. This campaign helps to warn the public and passengers of the impact on services ahead of the work taking place at London Euston station over the August bank holiday weekend and allows them to make informed choices about their journeys.
- The campaign was launched to allow enough time for people to make alternative travel arrangements. Advertising is ongoing to alert passengers to the disruption. Travel sites such as National Rail Enquiries also include bulletins about the disruption and amended journey planning information.
- The campaign covers a number of channels including targeted digital advertising, radio advertising, in-station activity (flyering, station posters) and social media, asking passengers to check before they travel and encouraging people to travel on other days instead.
- A dedicated National Rail Enquiries page alerting the public to changes to the timetable has been created (nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks).
- The rail industry has worked closely with stakeholders in affected areas to ensure passengers are aware of the disruption and can make alternative travel arrangements.
- Passengers who require assistance to make their journeys are advised to book mobility assistance with their train company before they travel.

What should passengers do if they have to travel on the affected route over the days of the closure?

Alternative routes will be extremely busy and passengers should only travel if necessary. Queuing systems will be in place. If train travel is unavoidable on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August, passengers should plan ahead and check at nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks or with their train company.

What services are running and what are the alternatives if passengers want to take the train to / from London Euston or other affected services along the west coast mainline?

The rail industry has worked closely with HS2 Ltd to carefully assess likely demand for trains and to plan services. As the bank holiday approaches, the industry has redoubled its efforts to keep passengers on the move.

Alternative travel arrangements for Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August cover journeys to or from all stations on the west coast mainline to destinations south of Hemel Hempstead (on Saturday 26 August) or Milton Keynes Central (on Sunday 27 August) including London Euston, Watford Junction, Hemel Hempstead.

Specific services in and around Manchester, Cheshire and Staffordshire are affected as follows:

Travelling from	Travelling to	Alternative route(s) passengers should use	Additional notes
Manchester / Stockport / Wilmslow	London Euston	Travel to London King's Cross using: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virgin Trains services from Stockport / Wilmslow to Manchester Piccadilly.• TransPennine Express services from Manchester Piccadilly to Leeds.• Virgin Trains East Coast services to London.	

Local maps have been produced to show alternative travel plans (images of the map can be found in the appendix below).

Why are other stations or routes not included on the alternative travel plans?

Alternative travel arrangements have been developed to keep people on the move, however, not all stations or services are able to carry additional passengers safely. Many routes will be extremely busy and customers are advised to only travel via these stations if absolutely necessary. Queuing systems will be in place.

Alternative travel arrangements are based on:

- Those stations and services that passengers need to use to get to their ticketed destination.
- The need to safely manage the rail network, including managing passenger numbers at stations and on routes that are already extremely busy. Queuing systems will be used at some stations and customers are strongly advised to only use alternative routes if absolutely necessary.

Why is this work taking place over the August bank holiday when people are travelling on holiday – and with so many other railway improvement works happening at the same time?

The work takes place on these days because bank holidays are generally a less busy time for rail travel across the UK. This means fewer people will experience disruption.

WORK ON THE GROUND

What does this work look like on the ground?

The work taking place at Euston on 26 and 27 August is technical and requires Euston station's electricity supply to be turned off. A specialist team will work overnight to decommission the existing infrastructure, re-cable the new power infrastructure and reconnect the power.

The work has been planned for 18 months prior to the August bank holiday. This has involved the design of new electrical infrastructure, survey work and site clearance to prepare for the power supply to be switched off.

Is this the only work going on over the August bank holiday area in this location?

No. Network Rail is taking advantage of the closure of Euston station to deliver additional vital track maintenance works in the area. Doing this work at the same time as the closure of Euston minimises the impact on the rail network, and disruption to passengers.

About HS2

HS2 will form the new backbone of our national rail network, creating more space for commuter and freight trains on our business lines and better connecting our major cities.

HS2 Ltd is working closely with Network Rail to deliver a brand new high speed railway that will boost the UK's economy and revolutionise rail travel in the UK – increasing capacity and better connecting cities in the Midlands and the North to each other, as well as to London.

HS2 will be the first new intercity railway north of London in more than 120 years. HS2 services will start in ten years' time and by 2033 around 300,000 passengers are expected to use HS2 every day with up to 48 HS2 trains running every hour.

HS2 will bring faster journeys between key cities. The table below shows selected journey times on current plans:

Station to station	Current fastest regular service (hrs / mins)	HS2 fastest regular service	Time saved
Glasgow to London	4:31	3:40	0:51
Glasgow to Birmingham	4:02	3:20	0:42
Edinburgh (Haymarket) to Birmingham	3:57	3:11	0:46
Edinburgh (Haymarket) to London	4:28	3:40	0:48
Manchester to Birmingham	1:28	0:40	0:48
Manchester to London	2:07	1:07	1:00
Liverpool to London	2:14	1:33	0:41
Birmingham to London	1:22	0:45	0:37
Birmingham to Manchester	1:28	0:40	0:48
London to Leeds	2:11	1:21	0:50
London to Manchester	2:07	1:07	1:00
London to Birmingham	1:22	0:45	0:37

About the Railway Upgrade Plan

The Railway Upgrade Plan is Network Rail's investment plan for Britain's railways. It makes up two-thirds of Network Rail's £40bn spending priorities for the five years to 2019 and represents the biggest sustained programme of rail modernisation since the Victoria era. It is designed to provide more capacity, relieve crowding and respond to the tremendous growth Britain's railways continue to experience; passenger numbers have doubled in the past 20 years and are set to double again over the next 25 years – so we need to continue to invest in building a bigger, better railway. For passengers, that means:

- longer, faster more frequent trains;
- better, more reliable infrastructure; and
- better facilities for passengers, especially at stations.

About Network Rail

Network Rail owns, manages and develops Britain's railway – the 20,000 miles of track, 40,000 bridges and viaducts and the thousands of signals, level crossings and stations (the largest of which we also run). In partnership with train operators we help people take more than 1.65bn journeys by rail every year and move hundreds of millions of tonnes of freight, saving almost 8m lorry journeys. We employ 36,000 people across Britain and work round-the-clock, each and every day, to provide a safe, reliable railway.

APPENDIX

Examples of the creative used in the campaign

Creative featured as part of the advertising campaign to let people know about disruption at Euston station over the August bank holiday.



No trains at London Euston on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August

No trains will be running in or out of London Euston station on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August, over the Bank Holiday weekend.

That's to allow us to prepare the way for your brand-new high-speed railway – part of Britain's Railway Upgrade Plan.

Please travel on other days instead – avoid Saturday 26 and Sunday 27.

Services on other routes over the whole Bank Holiday period are expected to be very busy.

Always plan your journey well in advance and check before you travel at nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks

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Travelling over the August Bank Holiday and need assistance?



No trains will be running in or out of London Euston station on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August.

That's to allow us to start work on your brand-new high-speed railway – part of Britain's Railway Upgrade Plan.

If you need help making your journey, please book mobility assistance with your train company before you travel.

For more information, please go to nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks

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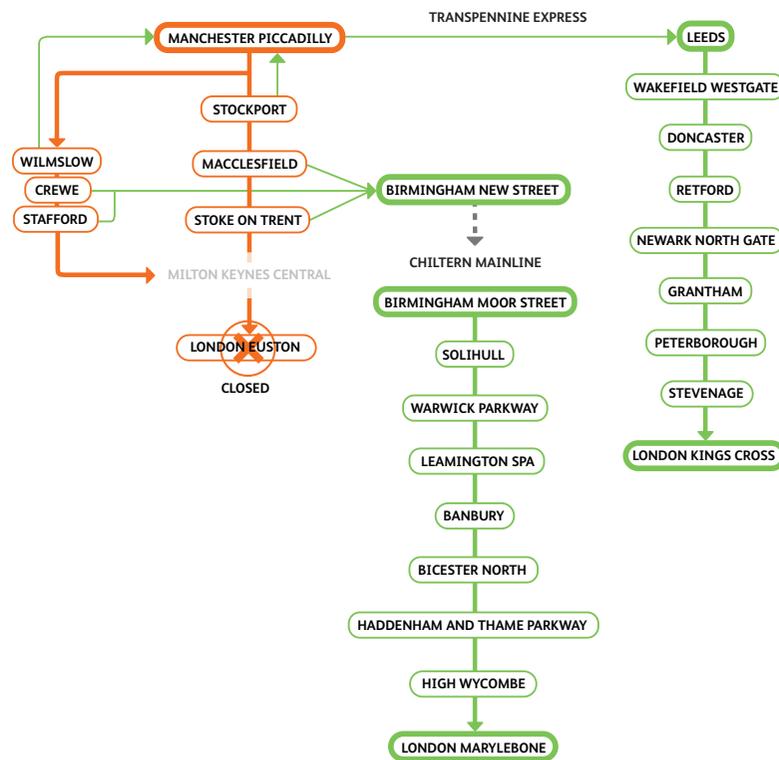
APPENDIX

Map showing alternative routes

Manchester, Cheshire and Staffordshire

There are no trains in or out of London Euston on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August. Whilst we recommend you do not travel on those days, if you must travel this is how we suggest you get to London:

VIRGIN WEST COAST MAINLINE



Suggested route to London – please visit nationalrail.co.uk/eustonworks for more detail