

Press Release from the Lichfield Rail Promotion Group (LRPG)

Extra Virgin Trains to serve Lichfield from May

The Lichfield Rail Promotion Group are delighted that Virgin Trains is to increase the number of trains calling at Lichfield Trent Valley station by over 30% from the middle of May this year. This follows efforts by the Group over several years to persuade them of the potential of this station if it were better served. Of particular significance are extra weekend calls, which make it far easier for Londoners to come here for the day, and for local residents to spend Sundays in London. There is also a new, later train to London for commuters on weekdays.

David Dixon, the Group's Chair, says "This shows what a Group such as ours can achieve through reasoned argument. This success makes even more urgent the need for major improvements at Trent Valley station. As well as step-free access to all platforms (already being planned but with no completion date announced), we need far more car parking spaces, waiting and toilet facilities available at all times, and proper passenger buildings on the London platform".

Trent Valley station, operated by London Midland, has seen huge increases in usage since four-tracking of the Trent Valley route was completed in 2008. Passenger numbers already exceed one million a year and should rise further with the improved Virgin service.

Lichfield Rail Promotion Group, 29 February 2016.

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