

Moseley Forum

24th September 2024

West Midlands Rail Programme, working together to build tomorrows railway for the West Midlands:



Contents

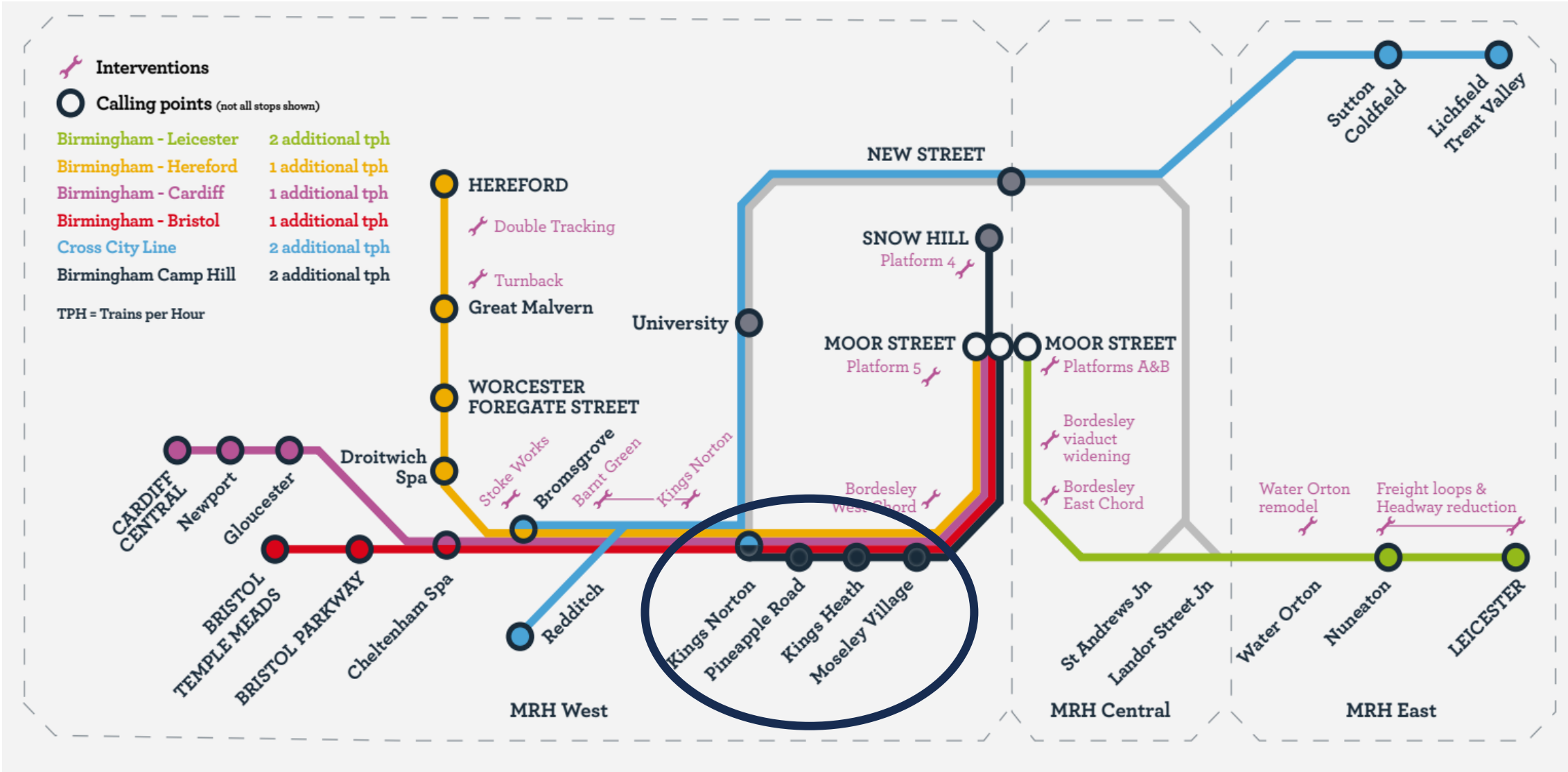
1. **Introductions**
2. **Current State of Affairs within the rail industry & the region**
3. **Revised Entry into Service for Camp Hill Line Stations**
4. **Progress Update**
5. **Power & Water Connection at Moseley Station**
6. **Responses to Queries**
7. **Community Engagement**

Current State of Affairs in the WMCA region

Current State of Affairs within rail industry

- ❑ State of Change
- ❑ Reform is coming... Great British Railways & now the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill...
- ❑ West Midlands Trains' core term has now expired... but a 2-year contract option to September 2026.
- ❑ WMRE will continue working with WMT & the DfT to minimise any impact on day-to-day operations.
- ❑ Restoring your Railways Fund has been scrapped...
- ❑ Midlands Rail Hub project continues into development, with £123m of funding awarded to develop the project business case.
 - One of the main planned interventions is the creation of the Bordesley Chords to unlock capacity into Birmingham Moor Street.





Current State of Affairs within the region & WMCA/TfWM

- As you may have seen in the media over the summer, TfWM/WMCA has recently had to make some very difficult decisions on what projects to prioritise in the next few years, due to growing cost pressures on its capital programme. This totals over £120m.
- Broadly, the principle has been to prioritise projects already in construction & focus any remaining funding on projects already in active development.
- This has meant railway station projects, as well as other transport schemes, including the development of Aldridge Station will continue. However, its delivery will be deferred, until more funding becomes available.
 - Camp Hill Line Stations will continue to be delivered in full as well.
- This was approved at WMCA Board on the 19th July.
- In addition, the Mayor has committed to undertake a full independent review of capital projects within TfWM's portfolio, to be complete later this year.



Revised Entry into Service date for the Camp Hill Line Stations

Camp Hill Line Revised Entry into Service

WEST MIDLANDS RAIL
PROGRAMME

- Construction of the Camp Hill Line stations is well underway, however challenges in delivering the three new stations mean that the opening of the stations is now planned for Autumn 2025.
- Stations are being constructed while trains continue to use the railway which limits how much work can be carried out without closing the line. We are working with our rail industry partners to understand if we can agree additional closures of the railway to enable quicker delivery of key construction works & reduce the time needed to complete the stations.
- Site-specific issues: including needing to redesign the drainage system at Pineapple Road & changes to improve the design of the lifts at the stations to increase resilience & reliability.
- Designing station assets over existing utilities or diverting them involves complex negotiations & agreements to ensure we keep the construction & ongoing maintenance costs as low as possible. All this whilst ensuring & minimising the risk that none of the parties involved are left in a compromised position in the longer term which involves passengers as well during time of potential disruption if there were to be a requirement for accessing these utilities assets.
- Whilst, the project team & designers are aware of existing utilities before starting design & construction of the station, actual agreements only happen while the design & construction progress through different phases. Therefore, we are working very closely with utilities companies, NR & WMT to ensure that all parties have relevant access agreements & arrangements in place
- Specifically at Moseley Village, a significantly more extensive piece of work to undertake soil nailing for bank stabilisation purposes, which included probing to check for unexploded bombs from WW2. None have been found. We're pleased to report that all of the c. 1400 soil nails have now been installed which marks a significant milestone in the construction of Moseley Station.

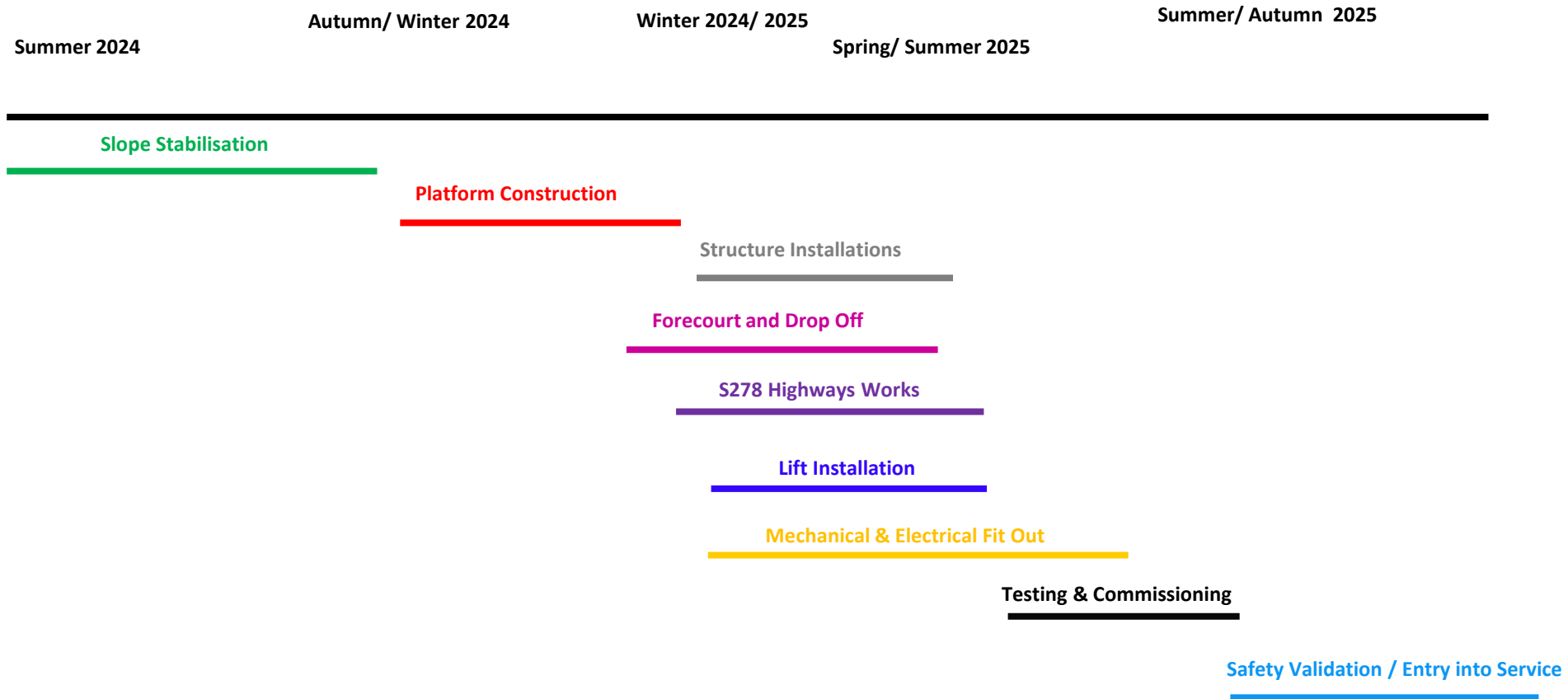
What is being done to manage the programme better?

- We are continuously applying lessons learnt from previously delivered successful projects such as Perry Barr & University Stations & following reviews by expert independent consultants, TfWM is making changes to the way transport capital programmes are developed & delivered. These organisational changes ensure TfWM has enhanced commercial, quantity surveying, technical & design skills & provide more robust project/programme monitoring & reporting in one place consistently.

When did we know about programme?

- Live construction programmes change all the time, & therefore are under constant review. As this is an extremely complex & iterative process. We have been working hard in the background with the contractor to test & mitigate risks to ensure we had the most accurate information before making external stakeholders aware.
- We continue to undertake this work with the contractor to try & bring the programme forward, it is important that we are prudent in our financial & programme approach so that we stay within financial governance.
- We are continuously working with the contractor to ensure they provide us with sound financial evidence whilst we validate their numbers as we progress through the delivery of the scheme

Indicative Project Milestones



Moseley Station Update

Progress Update

WEST MIDLANDS RAIL PROGRAMME



Project Update cont...

- **When are the highways works taking place?**

Exact dates will be determined as we agree details with the highway authority (Birmingham City Council), but we anticipate winter 2024-25. Traffic Management will be required to undertake these works. We will communicate these dates & details of the TM plans once they have been finalised, prior to final approval by BCC.

- **What mitigations are being explored to accelerate the schedule or confirm autumn 2025 as a date?**

Various actions are underway with colleagues at West Midlands Trains & Network Rail, to enable full design approval. Additional railway access to undertake work when trains are not running is also being continuously explored.

Queries

Topic	Question	Response
Planning Conditions	When will details be submitted to the planners regarding the intended materials?	These submissions will be made following the interdisciplinary check on the design which is currently planned for mid-December 2024.
Diversions	When will local residents be consulted with regards to the diversions required to complete the works to the highway?	Exact dates will be determined as we agree details with the highway authority (Birmingham City Council), but we anticipate winter 2024-25. Traffic Management will be required to undertake these works. We will communicate these dates & details of the TM plans once they have been finalised.
S278 Works	How will access to 61-67 St Marys Row be maintained.	There is no change to access onto this road.

Queries Cont...

Topic	Question	Response
S278 Works	The junction of the slip road noted above is in conflict with the toucan crossing. Will it be safe? Will it involve removing a section of the bank	<p>Whilst the S278 submission has been made to BCC by the WMCA, there are ongoing discussions on the designs between the project team & BCC highways team to refine them to achieve an overall desired design by all parties. This is likely to be finalised over the next couple of months after which we can share more details.</p> <p>W.R.T bus diversion routes, we are currently working with TfWM bus colleagues to ensure alignment & also with regards to general traffic diversions, we will share these details in advance.</p>
	Can the lights to the toucan crossings be cross co-ordinated to prevent the island becoming log jammed?	
	Are all the pavements either side of the crossings to be designed as shared spaces?	
	Where will the bus stop go?	
	If Option 2 is adopted where will the No.1 & 41 buses go?	
	More info is required regarding the diversion routes for both options.	
	How long will Option 2 take?	
	<p>Will the diversionary routes be advertised in advance of their implementation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the pedestrian crossings still raised from road surface level? • There was some concern the pedestrian crossings did not marry with pedestrian desire lines, has this been considered in the design? • Will there be any pedestrian lights on the crossings. Are the current pedestrian crossing lights being retained on the St Mary's crossing? 	

Community Engagement

- Over the past month the community engagement team carried out a series of Meet the Team events which was well received.
- 3 Sessions were held at
 - Moseley Farmer's Market, Village Green - Saturday 27 July, 10am-1pm
 - Kings Heath Library, High Street - Tuesday 6 August, 11am-1pm
 - Stirchley Baths, Bournville Lane - Wednesday 14 August, 5-7pm
- We will be carrying out more of these events over the next 12 months as we progress through the delivery of the project to ensure that we are listening to the community whilst providing regular & timely updates on the progress.
- We are currently facilitating a 'listening exercise'. We have conducted a survey exploring local people's preferences for future communications. These findings are now being sound boarded with community groups across Kings Heath, Stirchley and Moseley with the aim of fine tuning our community engagement and communications strategy for the remainder of the construction period.