



Department
for Transport

Chris Heaton-Harris MP
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Dear Mr Heaton - Harris,

Thank you for your letter of 2 February to Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, _____ of _____ about the London Midland Long Buckby service. I am replying as Minister responsible for rail issues.

I can assure you and _____ that there are no changes envisaged to the services at Long Buckby in the Direct Award nor as a result of the West Midlands Rail devolution proposition submitted to the Department for consideration.

It appears that a number of individuals have looked at the devolution proposal submitted by West Midlands Rail and assumed that there are changes to services as a result of a map which refers to their specification. However, there are no such plans to change the services from Long Buckby, in the upcoming Direct Award or thereafter.

Thank you once again for your letter. I am sure both you and _____ will join me in recognising that Great Britain's railways are a great success story. Our railway is the busiest it has been since the 1920s, we have some of the safest and most punctual rail services in Europe and we are carrying out the biggest programme of railway modernisation in a generation. Network Rail will spend over £38 billion on the railways over the next five years, allowing it to continue maintaining and enhancing the railway, not counting the massive investment in the new HS2 rail link. It really is an exciting time for railway users and it is part of this Government's commitment to reinvest the proceeds of economic recovery in world-class British infrastructure right across the country.

I hope this information is of use to _____

M. Seligson

Ms.

CLAIRE PERRY