



## LAURA FARRIS MP

*Member of Parliament for Newbury*

Wendy Morton MP  
Minister of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
SW1P 4DR

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Dear Wendy,

**RE: Great Western Railway services west of Newbury**

Following our conversation last night and prior to our meeting next week, I am writing to outline the issue I wish to discuss. I recently met with Great Western Railway (GWR) and the Bedwyn Train Passenger Group (BTPG) and I understand that GWR are proposing to cease most through trains on the service between London Paddington and Bedwyn, Hungerford and Kintbury from their May timetable.

This change will leave three through trains eastbound from Paddington to Bedwyn at peak times and will result in passengers having to make one, or sometimes two, changes as part of their travel where currently direct services are available. I understand that the principle reason for this decision is because GWR have decided to take the Intercity Express Trains (IET) out of circulation between Paddington and Bedwyn and move them to the West Country to make up for a shortage there.

Many residents are deeply concerned by the proposals as, despite marked service improvements in recent years, this would represent a significant deterioration in services. The proposal has been described by the BTPG as “the worst timetable since June 1992”. For many, this would also make travel to London via train unviable for peak time commuting purposes which is extremely frustrating for my many constituents who live in the affected areas but work in London.

As such, residents would like these planned changes reversed to ensure that regular through trains between London Paddington and Bedwyn, Hungerford and Kintbury remain in peak and off-peak times.

I look forward to meeting you next week to discuss this further.

Yours ever,

**Laura Farris MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Newbury**

Westminster Address: Office of Laura Farris MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA Telephone: 020 7219 4829  
Constituency Office: Office of Laura Farris MP, Park Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1EA Telephone: 01635 551 070

[www.laurafarris.org.uk](http://www.laurafarris.org.uk)

[laura.farris.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:laura.farris.mp@parliament.uk)