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24th June 2025

Heidi Alexander MP
Secretary of State
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

REF: Cancellation of 7:37am Cross-Country Train from Worcestershire Parkway to Birmingham New Street

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing as the County councillor for Pershore and have asked residents to sign the letter to show their support and strength of feeling.

In May we lost the 7:37am train to Birmingham from nearby Worcestershire Parkway. Due to the expansion of Pershore in recent years and also of many neighbouring villages, we have seen an influx in commuters, many of whom work across the county and the West Midlands. Birmingham remains a key place for people to work.

Since the recent changes to the train timetable, I have received emails from residents who have been struggling to get to work. Several have missed key appointments and one has been told they need to consider their position. With many businesses seeing a return to the office, this train cancellation is having a detrimental impact on the residents of Pershore and surrounding area. Furthermore the next train at 8.14am (when it arrives) is invariably overcrowded. This is not just the result of the loss of the 7.37am train. It is also because many residents want to use public transport to commute to work – a trend I know the current government supports.

The loss of the 7:37am train to Birmingham is having a detrimental impact on many commuters. I experienced this myself recently when I aimed to get the now earliest train, at 8:14am, only for it to be cancelled. The next train is at 8:26am, which arrives into Birmingham at 8:55am, allowing you only 5 minutes to arrive for a traditional 9am start at work. This is not acceptable and is causing havoc for many commuters.

I am writing to you to request support in getting the 7:37am train to Birmingham reinstated. As the Department for Transport can hold Cross Country accountable for delivering timetables that meet the needs of passengers, we hope you will accept this cancellation does not meet the needs of many passengers.

Accordingly we hope you will act to influence Cross Country to reinstate the 07.37 Worcester Parkway to Birmingham service. I look forward to hearing from you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' and 'G' followed by a long horizontal line.

Cllr Dan Boatright-Greene
County Councillor for Pershore Division

cc. Nigel Huddleston MP Mid Worcestershire