



Birmingham Westside Metro extension Stakeholder Update

March 2022

Metro extension enters final stages

Testing and commissioning of the new tramway along Broad Street is set to start this month.

Out-of-service trams will travel along Broad Street from Monday 4 April as vital testing of the new tracks, signals and other infrastructure gets underway.

Testing and commissioning is an important phase which involves running out of service trams at low speeds along the newly installed track, allowing engineers to complete a series of tests in a working environment.

It will also allow people to get used to trams travelling at low speeds along Broad Street and Hagley Road ahead of services opening to the public.

Peter Cushing, Director of Midland Metro Alliance, said: "In the Broad Street and Hagley Road areas, specifically, we're moving to a new stage of the project and over the coming weeks those in the area will witness remaining construction reducing. We would like to thank those who have been impacted by our works for their patience and understanding."

The testing and commissioning activity will mainly take place during the night.

Upcoming works

Further finishing activities will be taking place on Broad Street ahead of testing and commissioning commencing.

From Monday 28 March the team will start preparation work to insert poles for the new signage while new road markings will also start to be installed.

Following this, there will be noise and vibration tests along the route on Tuesday 29 March until the following day.

Further finishing activity, some of which will require access into venues along Broad Street, will be taking place over the coming days and weeks. Please get in touch with our dedicated Stakeholder Liaison Officer for the route, Shervorne Brown, for further information (see page two for contact details).

Loading and unloading

There will be some changes to loading and unloading along Broad Street in preparation for the Metro extension.

Shervorne Brown will be visiting businesses to answer any questions or queries next week.



Overhead line now live

The overhead lines across the entire West Midlands Metro network, from Wolverhampton St. George's to Edgbaston Village tram stops, are now live.

There will be some additional activity which will require localised traffic management to be in place on Monday 28 March in preparation for testing and commissioning of the tramway.

Should this impact your premises Shervorne Brown will contact you with further details.

Now that the overhead wires are live, if urgent work is required to your property adjacent to the tramway, you must contact West Midlands Metro in order to request a permit. You can find out more information about this procedure, and how to request a permit, by visiting: <https://westmidlandsmetro.com/using-the-metro/permit-to-work/>.





Praise for operatives who helped save a man's life

Two MMA operatives have been praised for their quick thinking and exemplary actions which helped save a man's life.

Simon Dicken and Aaron Lynch were both working on Lower Bull Street when they noticed a member of the public unconscious.

They quickly sprang into action to administer first aid and their intervention proved to be both crucial and essential as they helped save the man's life.

A spokesperson for the West Midlands Ambulance Service, said: "[We] would like to take the opportunity to praise the actions of the quick-thinking bystanders who played a significant part in helping save the man's life by starting CPR. Every second is vital when trying to save someone's life who is in cardiac arrest, and by acting quickly, the man was given the very best chance of surviving in this case. We would encourage anyone who can, to undertake first aid training, as one day it could be your turn to save a life."



Statement from Midland Metro Limited - operator of West Midlands Metro

Trams undergoing major panel replacement

Detailed inspections of bodywork cracks have been undertaken on older trams and repairs are required across the fleet.

Midland Metro Limited (MML) is requiring the manufacturer to replace the panels rather than repair the existing panels to ensure the future reliability and robustness of the service.

MML is working with the manufacturer, CAF, to carry out these replacements as soon as possible. The service will be suspended for a number of weeks so more extensive replacements can be carried out by the manufacturer.

The testing and commissioning of new trams, which are unaffected by the bodywork defect, continues and this will help to bolster fleet availability in the future.

MML is currently processing refunds for Metro tickets and passes for customers that have been affected by the suspension of services. Metro tickets and passes will continue to be accepted on a variety of National Express bus services and on all train services between Wolverhampton and Birmingham until Sunday 3 April when ticket acceptance will end.

Updates will be available through the West Midlands Metro website and social media channels.

The construction work on the future tram network is being carried out by the Midland Metro Alliance and is unaffected by the current operational issues. The tram is a huge part of a public transport system that will connect people across the region to jobs, businesses, education and communities. Transport for West Midlands is committed to delivering these expansions to ensure the benefits are felt by as many people across the region as possible.



**How can I get further
information?**

For further information
please visit:

www.metroalliance.co.uk

or email:

communications@metroalliance.co.uk

Alternatively, you can follow:

 [company/midland-metro-alliance](https://www.linkedin.com/company/midland-metro-alliance)

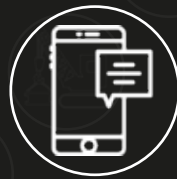
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For regular updates about our works, sign up to our mailing list by visiting metroalliance.co.uk/contact-us/signup/

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