

# Bolton upgrade

## August 2017

**NetworkRail**



Work to upgrade the route between Manchester and Preston is gathering pace. Here is an update on the work taking place in the Bolton area as part of Network Rail's Great North Rail Project.

### What work is taking place?

The orange army are continuing to work hard as they look to electrify one of the busiest routes in the north west. Over the coming weeks, they will be looking to complete a number of improvements at Bolton station.

They will:

- restore an unused platform, increasing capacity
- modify existing platforms and canopies for electric trains
- remodel track to enable electric trains and increase linespeed
- upgrade signalling
- install overhead line equipment

### Why does this work need to take place?

There is an increased demand on train services and surrounding infrastructure meaning we need to ensure the station is ready for electric trains to run.

### Will this work have any affect on train services?

Due to the size and scale of the work, services will be affected. Sunday 23, 30 July, 6 August and from 12 to 27 August, the majority of trains will not run in or out of Bolton station. Passengers are advised to plan their journey ahead and check before they travel on [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk).

### Are any bus replacements available?

Bus replacements will be in use and trains will still run from Bolton to Blackburn and Clitheroe during weekdays.

### When will services return to normal?

Services will resume ready for the first service on Monday 28 August 2017.

### What are the benefits of electrification?

There are many benefits to using electric trains rather than diesel.

Electrifying the route will:

- allow more trains to run between Manchester and Preston meaning faster and more frequent journeys for passengers.

- provide a reliable and sustainable railway, by tackling overcrowding and reducing the cost of operating the railway
- be more environmentally friendly
- mean lineside neighbours won't be disturbed by noisier diesel trains

### What is the Great North Rail Project?

GNRP is a vast programme of improvements to transform train travel in the north, aimed at shortening journey times, improving connections between towns and cities and boosting the local economy.

### Where can I find out more on work taking place in the region?

For more information, go to [www.networkrail.co.uk/north](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/north). You can also follow us on Twitter @NetworkRailNP where you will be able to view the latest pictures and videos from projects such as the Ordsall Chord and North West Electrification, Liverpool City Region Upgrade and the Transpennine Route Upgrade.