

# Press Release

27<sup>th</sup> March 2014

## **CrossCountry customers returning to rail travel**

People are quickly returning to rail travel after CrossCountry delivers more direct rail services between Exeter and Bristol.

As Network Rail works to repair the railway tracks through Somerset that were damaged during February's floods, CrossCountry has been introducing an increasing number of direct trains between the two South West cities. Although speed restrictions on the line at Bridgwater mean trains are subject to small delays, customers can travel from Exeter to Bristol in just over one hour. And, with over three quarters of the normal number of daily trains able to operate and a regular hourly service introduced, they can again rely on rail for their commuting, leisure and work journeys between Exeter, Bristol and the North.

With the railway through Dawlish planned to reopen on 4 April, CrossCountry will then be able to use the four trains currently confined at Plymouth and plans to reintroduce its full range of services across the South West. This will be achieved in time for the Easter Holidays, when around 10,000 people use CrossCountry services to travel to the region from the midlands and the north.

Commenting, CrossCountry's commercial director, David Watkin, said: "We know our customers from Exeter have endured a difficult time, with travel to Bristol involving road replacement transport for over two months. We are grateful for their patience while work to repair flood damage has been undertaken and we are pleased we have been able to quickly resume a regular service. Now that we have, we have seen customers quickly returning to our trains. We are already preparing for increased numbers of people travelling to the region over the Easter Holidays, and our next goal is to ensure those who would come to the South West for the summer know there is again a fast and frequent rail service available.

Full details of train times are available from National Rail Enquiries at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or by calling 08457 48 49 50.

**Ends**



For more information please contact us on 0121 200 6115 or by email to [communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk](mailto:communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk)

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