

Press Release

5 March 2010

XC2010/005 (RG)

ADDITIONAL CROSSCOUNTRY RAIL SERVICES AT WILLINGTON

CrossCountry has announced that from 24 May 2010 it will be increasing the number of train services stopping at Willington, Derbyshire.

From the May timetable change, a trial will be undertaken to gauge customer demand by providing two additional trains in each direction at Willington from Mondays to Saturdays, increasing the daily number of trains to twelve. The additional morning and afternoon stops in the regular CrossCountry service between Birmingham and Nottingham have been introduced after extensive consultation with rail users and local stakeholders.

Earlier surveys indicated the normal level of service of eight trains was sufficient to cater for the stations customers. In 2009 CrossCountry's annual timetable consultation highlighted a number of requests for extra peak time services at Willington from people attending the new Derby College Roundhouse campus adjacent to the railway station. Following discussions with the College, Derbyshire County Council and the local MP, Mark Todd, CrossCountry is providing the additional services to test if there are enough customers to make these a permanent fixture in the timetable.

David Watkin, CrossCountry's Commercial Director, said: "We are delighted to have been able to introduce these trial services. We will now begin working with the County Council, politicians and rail users to encourage more people to use our trains at Willington for their business, leisure and commuting trips."

Councillor Chris Jackson, Derbyshire County Council's cabinet member for Highways and Transport, said: "We're pleased CrossCountry is improving its service, making it easier for people in Willington and the surrounding area to travel into Derby and beyond."

Over the next few months, CrossCountry will be working with Derbyshire County Council and Derby College to help raise awareness of rail services at Willington.

ENDS

Please find notes to Editors, CrossCountry facts and figures below.
 For more information feel free to contact us on 0121 2006115 or by email to communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk

Notes to editors

The timetable of services at Willington from 24 May is as follows:

Willington depart	Derby arrive	Derby depart	Willington arrive
07:56	08:05	07:36	07:43
08:56*	09:05*	13:06	13:14
10:54*	11:05*	15:06*	15:14*
12:54	13:05	17:06*	17:14*
18:18	18:31	18:05	18:14
23:45	23:55	21:06	21:14

* Denotes new service

CrossCountry started operating on 11 November 2007. The franchise, which is the most extensive in the UK, will run until 31 March 2016. For further information on CrossCountry services and future franchise plans log on to www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk

CrossCountry is now live on Facebook www.facebook/crosscountrytrains

Arriva is one of the largest private sector providers of passenger transport in Europe, employing more than 43,500 people (including share of associate companies) and providing more than one billion passenger journeys every year.

Arriva provides transport services including buses, trains, commuter coaches and water buses, and operates in 12 European countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

CrossCountry facts and figures:

STATIONS SERVED: 118

ROUTE MILES: 1,654

WEEKDAY SERVICES: 295

PASSENGERS CARRIED: Over 30 million passenger journeys a year anticipated

ANNUAL TRAIN MILEAGE: Approximately 16 million

EMPLOYEES: Approximately 1,700

LONGEST TRAIN SERVICE: 08.20 Aberdeen to Penzance (774 miles)