

Claire Mann Managing Director South Western Railway

Our Ref: SO16978 13 January 2022

Dear Claire,

Re: Impacted of consolidated timetable on Richmond Park constituents

I am writing about the consolidated timetable that is due to come into effect from Monday 17th January.

This has caused considerable anxiety for a number of my constituents. Over the past two months I have been hearing from them that local SWR services have become increasingly infrequent and unreliable. You will, I hope, understand that the prospect of further disruption and last-minute cancellations, per the new timetable, will have only added to that concern.

Are you able to please clarify what exactly the new timetable will mean for stations in my constituency (which includes north Kingston)?

In addition, I would like to query whether the consolidated timetable is actually necessary given that, in London at least, it appears cases have peaked and are on their way down? If they follow their current trajectory then they will be substantially lower than where they were when this timetable was announced.

It goes without saying that my constituents, unlike SWR in its communications advising travellers to keep checking for last minute updates, do not have the luxury of flexibility as it pertains to arriving at work and making healthcare appointments. For them, certainty, reliability and frequency is essential, and I would therefore urge you to reconsider whether this timetable is necessary.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

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Sarah Olney

Member of Parliament for Richmond Park