



# Department for Transport

## RAILWAYS ACT 2005

### PROPOSAL BY FUNDING AUTHORITY TO CLOSE NORTON BRIDGE STATION

The Department for Transport proposes to close Norton Bridge station.

Under section 30(1)(a) of the Railways Act 2005, the Secretary of State, as the relevant railway funding authority, is required to carry out a consultation concerning any proposal to discontinue the use of a station.

This notice is made in compliance with the statutory requirements in Schedule 7 to the Railways Act 2005 and relates to the closure of the following station:

- **Norton Bridge, which is situated at Norton Bridge Junction between Stafford and Stone stations**

*Since 2004, Norton Bridge station has been served only by a rail replacement bus service, train services having been removed to allow rebuilding of the railway as part of the West Coast Route Modernisation project. As this temporary situation has now existed for 12 years we are seeking to resolve it going forward into the next West Midlands franchise. The Department for Transport has carried out an assessment in accordance with the Railway Closures Guidance on whether the reinstatement of train services at Norton Bridge station represents value for money. We have reviewed the costs and the benefits of reinstating the station for train services and have concluded that this is neither an appropriate nor responsible use of resources. We therefore propose to close Norton Bridge station on or after 15 October 2017. Once the closure process has been completed, funding for the rail replacement bus will be withdrawn.*

Anyone wishing to see the Department's initial assessment, and a summary of it, may view the consultation document on the Department for Transport's website at [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open)

The consultation document may also be inspected at the Department for Transport's offices at Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR. Alternatively, copies can be obtained from Andrew Johnson at the same address or by email from [nortonbridge.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nortonbridge.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

Copies will be provided free of charge.

Representations about the proposal should be sent to:  
[nortonbridge.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nortonbridge.consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

or Norton Bridge Consultation, Department for Transport, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR

no later than 3 February 2017