

Redditch Borough Council

2nd October 2017

Motion on Notice

Enhancements to the Rail Service

Proposed by Councillor Hartnett, seconded by Councillor Brunner

One of, if not the most important, priorities for this Council is Economic Development and Regeneration as part of our strategic purpose "Help me run a successful business". Key to this is our relationship with Birmingham and in particular our connectivity (particularly rail) into and out of the conurbation. This is key, not only to our businesses, but also our residents who often travel in and out of Birmingham.

However there are two main issues that impact on this connectivity which are fare parity (people tend to pay less for using the rail service within the Transport for West Midlands (formerly Centro) area than they do to travel from Birmingham to Redditch and the time take to travel into and out of the conurbation. If these issues were to be addressed then there would be a significant benefit to the Redditch economy:

"Redditch Council therefore calls upon Transport for West Midlands and Worcestershire County Council to work with Redditch Borough Council to urgently investigate and produce a sound business case on enhancements to the current rail service to and from Redditch namely :

- 1) The introduction of an express train in the morning and in the evening which would only stop at university and new street (both directions)
- 2) To seek the equalisation of rail fares to and from Redditch to the same level of fare as the WMCA metropolitan council areas.