

WEST SUSSEX RAIL USERS ASSOCIATION

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ASLEF overtime ban from 6 December

ASLEF 3 day strike Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Friday 16 December and 6 day strike Monday 9 to Saturday 14 January

RMT 2 day strike Monday 19 to Tuesday 20 December and 3 day strike Saturday 31 December to Monday 2 January

The ASLEF overtime ban seriously affected Southern services last Friday and it is expected that there will be similar problems on the two non-strike days this week - Monday 12 and Thursday 15 December. On these days there should again be a near normal service between Bognor and Victoria in each direction. As on last Friday, none of these trains will attach or detach a Portsmouth or Southampton portion at Horsham and so it will be necessary for Chichester passengers to use a Coastway service to and from Barnham and change there into or out of the Bognor to Victoria services. The exception to this is that the 05.12 from Chichester to Victoria via Worthing and the 05.33 via Horsham will run as usual. The 06.54 Bognor to London Bridge will not attach a Southampton portion at Barnham and there will be no through train from London Bridge in the evening, as the 17.48 from London Bridge to Bognor has been cancelled

All services from Victoria to Bognor should run in their normal times with the last trains to Bognor from Victoria at 20.02, 20.32, 21.32 and 22.32. None of the Bognor trains will have a portion for either Portsmouth or Southampton and the 22.32 that normally runs to Chichester will run to Bognor and there will be no Chichester connection off this train. So the last train to Chichester will be at 21.32. West Coastway trains between Brighton and Portsmouth/Southampton and Portsmouth to Littlehampton will largely be unaffected. Southern are unable at this time to say whether a similar service will be in force on the non-strike days next week (Wednesday 21 to Friday 23 December) and whether the services on Saturday 17 and 24 December will be similar to yesterday's when a near normal service was in force.

The ASLEF drivers' strike will be far more serious as there will be no Southern trains on the 3 days this week or the 6 days in January. There will be no replacement buses for any of the services. There will be a normal Thameslink service from stations between Brighton, Three Bridges, Gatwick and East Croydon, Blackfriars to Bedford. South West trains will be running a normal service from Havant, Haslemere, Guildford to Waterloo and from Dorking to Waterloo. Some seasons from Horsham may be inter-available on the last mentioned route.

The RMT conductors' strike on 19 and 20 December will have similar effects on services as those in recent weeks. There will be service on some routes and only a limited service on others. The lines with no service include: Clapham Junction to Milton Keynes via Kensington Olympia; Preston Park to Hove and Chichester to Portsmouth Harbour and Southampton Central (but there will be buses between Chichester and Havant). For these strike days, there will be trains from 06.30 to 22.00 between Chichester and Victoria via Horsham, Gatwick and Redhill. The services between Brighton to Bognor via Littlehampton will run from 06.20 to 18.00; Horsham to Victoria via and Sutton will run from 06.00 to 20.00. Trains between Redhill to Tonbridge will run from 06.00 to 20.00. There will also be buses every 30 minutes between Chichester and Havant between 06.00 and 18.30 although the latest timetable suggests that these may run later into the evening. Faygate, Salfords and Earlswood will be closed.

Timetables of these services are at <http://www.southernrailway.com/your-journey/strike/conductor-strike/> on the Southern website. These trains are expected to be extremely busy especially in the peak hours and Southern cannot guarantee there will be space for you to travel. Also, try to avoid planning to travel on the last trains of the day - if you are unable to board services they will not be able to arrange alternative transport. On all Southern and Gatwick Express trains first class accommodation will be declassified. Similarly first class on Thameslink will be declassified between Brighton and London. Normal peak hour ticket restrictions will remain in force. The timetables are basically similar to those for previous strike days and show that there will be a train every 30 minutes along the Arun Valley from Victoria to Chichester calling at all stations and starting around 06.30 but with the last train from Victoria through to Chichester at 21.39 (Bognor's last connection will be off the 17.03 from Victoria). In the opposite direction the last train from Chichester to Victoria will be at 21.23 (Bognor's last connection will be at 18.50) followed by a 21.53 to Horsham. Along the West Coastway there will be a train every 30 minutes until 1800 between Brighton and Bognor via Littlehampton. This connects with the Chichester to Victoria trains at Barnham. There will be no direct trains between Littlehampton and Victoria via Hove, so a change of train at Brighton will be necessary for those travelling from stations between Littlehampton and Hove. I have tried to simplify the Arun Valley timetable with its onward connections in the table on the next page and I hope you will find it helpful. But remember to keep your eye on the website in case there are last minute changes.

What we are doing: We continue to talk to Southern management about this. I have also written to all our MPs and discussed the strikes with the Secretary of State for Transport. All take the line is that the disputes can only be resolved by the Unions and that the RMT should ballot its members on the Southern offers. We too have suggested this to Mick Cash of the RMT but our letters have been ignored. We will continue our efforts for our members and for all rail users in the county.

Arun Valley timetable for 19 and 20 December

Chichester			0653	0723		1853	1923		2053	2123	2153
<i>Bognor Regis</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>0620</i>	<i>0650</i>	<i>0720</i>		<i>1850</i>					
Barnham		0631	0701	0731	and	1901	1931	and	2101	2131	2201
Ford		0635	0705	0735	then	1905	1935	then	2105	2135	2205
Arundel		0641	0711	0741	every	1911	1941	every	2111	2141	2211
Amberley		0646	0716	0746		1916	1946		2116	2146	2216
Pulborough		0652	0722	0752	30	1922	1952	30	2122	2152	2222
Billingshurst		0658	0728	0758	minutes	1928	1958	minutes	2128	2158	2228
C. Hospital		0705	0735	0805	until	1935	2005	until	2135	2205	2235
Horsham		0710	0740	0810		1940	2010		2140	2210	2239
Littlehaven		0713	0743	0813		1943	2013		2143	2215	
Ifield		0720	0750	0820		1950	2020		2150	2220	
Crawley		0723	0753	0823		1953	2023		2153	2223	
Three Bridges		<i>07t38</i>	0808	0837		2008	2038		2208	2238	
Gatwick Apt		<i>07t43</i>	0813	0841		2012	2042		2212	2242	
Redhill		<i>07t51</i>	0821	0850		2021	2051		2221	2251	
E Croydon		<i>08t06</i>	0834	0901		2034	2102		2234	2307	
Clapham Junc		<i>08t17</i>	0845	0911		2043	2113		2243	2319	
Victoria		<i>08t24</i>	0853	0918		2055	2121		2255	2326	
<i>London Bridge</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>0832</i>	<i>0908</i>	<i>0931</i>		<i>2134</i>	<i>2103</i>		<i>2334</i>		

Victoria			0637	0707	0739	0803	0839		1703	1735		2109	2139
Clapham Junc			0646	0716	0745	0809	0847		1709	1741		2115	2145
<i>London Bridge</i>	<i>e</i>		<i>0606</i>	<i>0652</i>	<i>0729</i>	<i>0802</i>	<i>0824</i>		<i>1659</i>	<i>1718</i>		<i>2059</i>	<i>2127</i>
E Croydon			0657	0727	0757	0819	0858		1719	1752		2127	2157
Redhill			0710	0739	0809	0831	0910		1732	1808		2139	2209
Gatwick Apt			0718	0747	0817	0839	0918	and	1740	1817	and	2147	2217
Three Bridges			0726	0756	0826	0856	0926	then	1756	1826	then	2156	2226
Crawley			0730	0800	0830	0900	0930	every	1800	1830	every	2200	2230
Ifield			0732	0802	0832	0902	0932		1802	1832		2202	2232
Littlehaven			0739	0809	0839	0909	0939	30	1809	1839	30	2209	2239
Horsham		0713	0743	0813	0843	0912	0942	minutes	1815	1843	minutes	2213	2243
C. Hospital		0717	0747	0817	0847	0916	0947	until	1817	1847	until	2217	2247
Billingshurst		0723	0753	0823	0853	0922	0953		1823	1853		2223	2253
Pulborough		0729	0759	0829	0859	0929	1000		1830	1900		2230	2300
Amberley		0735	0805	0835	0905	0935	1006		1836	1906		2236	2306
Arundel		0741	0811	0841	0911	0940	1011		1841	1911		2241	2311
Ford		0747	0817	0847	0917	0945	1017		1847	1917		2247	2317
Barnham		0852	0822	0852	0921	0949	1021		1851	1921		2251	2321
<i>Bognor Regis</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>0802</i>	<i>0832</i>	<i>0902</i>	<i>0932</i>	<i>1001</i>	<i>1031</i>		<i>1901</i>				
Chichester		0800	0830	0900	0930	0958	1030		1900	1930		2300	2330

b – change Barnham; e – change East Croydon; t – change Three Bridges; g – change at Gatwick

The **West Coastway** timetable is an all stations service starting from Bognor at 0650, Barnham 0705, Littlehampton 0718, Worthing 0738 arriving Brighton 0806. The service is repeated every 30 minutes with the last train from Bognor at 1820 arriving Brighton 1936. In the opposite direction the first train is 0716 from Brighton arriving Bognor at 0831. The last one is 1746 from Brighton arriving Bognor at 1901. **The replacement bus service between Chichester and Havant** will leave Chichester at 0648, 0719, 0805, 0840 and then every 30 minutes until 1910; from Havant at 0610, 0640 and then every 30 minutes to 1740. The buses will have an approximate overall journey time of 35 minutes and will serve all stations with stops at Southbourne, Nutbourne and Fishbourne at the railway stops on the A259.

There is an hourly service (with some bus replacement) between **Horsham and Victoria via Dorking** calling at all stations. Trains leave Horsham at 0549, 0621 0653, 0720, 0753, 0841 bus to Dorking, 1004 and hourly to 1404, 1441 bus to Dorking, 1604, 1707, 1734, 1741 bus to Dorking, 1904 and 2006. From Victoria trains leave at 0552, 0617, 0706, 0819, 0931, 1031, 1132, 1232, 1331 (bus from Dorking), 1431, 1531, 1617 (bus from Dorking), 1720, 1750, 1820, 1920 and 2326.

Finally on behalf of your Committee, may I wish you a very happy Christmas and a dispute free New Year (after 14 January!)

Trevor Tupper (Secretary/Treasurer)