

Will your journey be affected this weekend?

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No LU staff will lose their jobs



LONDON Underground's (LU) managing director Mike Brown has guaranteed that not a single member of staff will be forced to leave the company as a result of plans to modernise customer service on the Tube. There will be no compulsory redundancies.

Publishing an open letter to Londoners today, he writes: 'These changes will radically improve the service we offer our customers, enabling us to provide the high quality, personalised customer service we delivered during the London 2012 Games every day. 'At LU, we strongly believe in treating our staff fairly and with respect. That's why I commit to the following for our staff – all stations will remain staffed by LU employees, no staff will be forced out of LU and we are looking to ensure no-one loses pay as a result of these changes. 'There remains time for the RMT leadership to withdraw their strike threats and, as other unions are doing, continue to join us at the table to work through the detail of how we shape the future of the Tube for 21st century London.'

LU plans to make the public areas of stations personalised customer service centres with staff brought out from behind back offices and the windows of under-used ticket offices to better help customers.

Some 650 staff already wish to leave under LU's voluntary redundancy arrangements and there is a need for an extra 200 staff for the new 24-hour weekend Tube service from next year. With existing vacancies and natural staff turnover, no members of staff will be forced out of a job.

Talks continued with the union this week, although the RMT Union has asked its members to walk out for 48 hours from 9pm on Monday April 28, and again from 9pm on Monday May 5 for 72 hours.

■ If strike action goes ahead, customers are urged to check before they travel and allow extra time for journeys. Although TfL will run as many Tube lines as possible, customers should use alternative methods of public transport wherever possible. For the latest travel information, go to tfl.gov.uk. Alternatively, follow @TfLTravelAlerts, @TfLTrafficNews and @TfLBus Alerts on Twitter

Lift maintenance at Earl's Court

FROM Monday, each of the two lifts at Earl's Court Tube station that serve the District line will be taken out of service, one at a time, for four weeks for maintenance work.

The first lift to be worked on operates to/from the eastbound District line. Customers requiring step-free access to Earl's Court are advised to change at Hammersmith for the Piccadilly line to Earl's Court or at West Brompton and continue at street level.

Work on the lift to/from the westbound platform is scheduled to start on Monday May 26. During this time, westbound District line customers are advised to continue to Hammersmith and return to Earl's Court via the eastbound District line.

■ Check publicity at Earl's Court station for updated information or go to tfl.gov.uk

There are no planned works on the Bakerloo, Central, Hammersmith & City, Jubilee, Metropolitan, Northern, Piccadilly, Victoria or Waterloo & City lines, or London Tramlink. However, the following lines will be affected by engineering and improvement works.

Circle line

Part closure

All weekend: No service between Gloucester Road and Aldgate, via Victoria, owing to track replacement at Tower Hill and drainage improvements in the Blackfriars area. Use alternative Tube and/or bus services.

District line

Part closure

All weekend: No service between Embankment and Aldgate East, or between Earl's Court and Kensington (Olympia), owing to line improvement work, track replacement at Tower Hill and drainage improvements in the Blackfriars area. Use alternative Tube and/or bus services.

Docklands Light Railway

Part closure

Today, until 10pm: No service between Stratford and Bow Church while work continues to complete the new Pudding Mill Lane station. Replacement buses will call at: Stratford – Pudding Mill Lane – Bow Church.

From 10pm today and all weekend: No service between Stratford and Poplar. Replacement buses will call at: Stratford – Pudding Mill Lane – Bow Church – Devons Road – Langdon Park – All Saints – Blackwall – Canary Wharf.

London Overground

Part closure

Sunday, until 12pm: No service between South Tottenham and Barking owing to Network Rail bridge work. Replacement buses will run.

Sunday, until 12.30pm: No service between Richmond and Camden Road owing to work to prepare the line for new, five-car trains. Use the District line between Richmond and Gunnersbury. Replacement buses will run between Gunnersbury and Camden Road.

Sunday, until 12.30pm: No service between Shepherd's Bush and Willesden Junction owing to work to prepare the line for new, five-car trains and Network Rail track work. Use local buses.

Sunday, after 9.30pm: No service between Gospel Oak and Stratford owing to Network Rail track work. Replacement buses will run.

Sunday: No service between Surrey Quays and Clapham Junction owing to Thameslink work. Replacement buses will run.

Go to tfl.gov.uk for full details on replacement travel information.

Improvements under way at Bond Street

WORK began at Bond Street Tube station earlier this week to build a new lift shaft that will provide step-free access, new passageways for more capacity to the Central line platforms, and a future link to the Crossrail station.

As the work is taking place on and around the Central line platforms, Jubilee line trains are stopping at the station as usual but Central line trains will not stop there until late June.

Passengers for the Central line are advised to use nearby Marble Arch station. Anyone wishing to change from the Jubilee line onto the Central line should take the Bakerloo line from Baker Street or Waterloo and travel to Oxford Circus.

■ For more information, visit tfl.gov.uk

