

FGW December 2007 timetable – Good news at last!

As you will know I have been in discussion with FGW about their proposals for the December 2007 timetable.

I am now able to give you some details about the morning and evening peak on the main lines and am pleased to say that there is some good news.

Essentially FGW have proposed an improved service for both morning and evening peak times with more fast services operating, which is great news for all those who have complained about the inadequate service.

As you will see from the table below, Maidenhead will have four more fast services leaving between 6 am and 9am. Twyford will have two more fast services leaving between those times. In addition, the current semi fast services remain. I am concerned about capacity issues around 7am and 8am, especially after the loss of the 07:40 service from Twyford. I will continue to press FGW to ensure that these trains have enough carriages and they do not underestimate the volume of people who will travel on these services.

Below is information about the current morning peak, and the proposals for December 2007. (These tables only include fast or semi-fast services.)

June 2007														
Twyford		0634			0704		0726		0740			0804		0844
Maidenhead		0641		0703	0712		0735	0742	0749			0812		0842 0851
Paddington		0700		0726	0745		0758	0815	0812			0845		0915 0912

Dec 2007														
Twyford	0629			0658	0704		0726				0757	0804	0824	0855
Maidenhead		0643	0702	0707	0712	0729	0734	0742		0800	0805	0812	0832	0843 0903
Paddington	0659	0708	0724	0727	0744	0749	0757	0814		0821	0828	0842	0855	0914 0927

The 07:02, 07:42 and 08:43 from Maidenhead are Bourne End trains and the 07:26 and 07:57 from Twyford are Henley trains. Apart from these I do not yet have details of the branch services.

FGW have focused less on the evening peak and there is still work to be done convincing FGW to reassess their definition of the 'evening peak'. People are working longer hours. This is an argument I have frequently made to FGW and I shall continue to press them for more fast services and a reassessment of their evening peak times.

In the evening the 17:06 to Maidenhead is replaced by a 17:18 and there will be services at 19:06 and 19:18 which are non-stop to Maidenhead, in addition to the current fast and semi fast services. For Twyford in the evenings there will be additional fast services at 17:06, 17:18, 18:06, 19:06 and 19:18. I am pleased there are some changes to the evening timetable but I still feel that more could be done to improve the service for commuters.

The evening service is shown below:
 (This table includes only fast or semi fast services)

June 2007												
Paddington		1714		1736	1744		1818	1814	1833 (36)	1844		1914
Maidenhead		1745		1759	1816		1840	1848	1854 (58)	1915		1948
Twyford		1758		1808			1848	1858	1902 (06)			2000

Dec 2007												
Paddington	1706	1714	1718	1736	1744	1806	1814	1818	1833	1844	1906	1918
Maidenhead		1748	1740	1759	1816		1848	1840	1853	1915	1927	1940
Twyford	1728	1758	1748	1808		1827	1859	1848	1902		1936	1948

I realise that this timetable may not be ideal, but FGW have addressed some of the problems we brought to their attention and overall I am pleased with the progress we have made so far.

The most important thing is that FGW realise that they did not provide a good service to Maidenhead and Twyford in their December 2006 timetable. Thank you all for emailing them, I have no doubt that this made them wake up to their responsibilities.

However, our battle is not over. This timetable shows that FGW can listen, but all is not over yet. Please continue to let them know how you feel about their service, and please keep me informed of your experiences so I can take them up directly with FGW.

Yours Sincerely,
 The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
 Shadow Leader of the House of Commons and Shadow Minister for Women
 House of Commons
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