

Engineering Work Alterations

January 2026

Updated 30/12/25

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Nothing to report at the time of posting.

FREIGHTLINER

The service alterations summarised below are for those routes, which Freightliner class 90s operate on.

West Coast Main Line

WCML / Scotland / Midlands / South / NW England:

Thursday 1st to Monday 15th January 2026 inclusive:

Major engineering work north of Wigan North Western in order to replace a road bridge over the M6 Motorway south of Penrith and upgrade signalling equipment in the Preston and Carlisle area are just some of the projects taking place during this period.

The electrically hauled intermodal trains operated by Freightliner will be severely disrupted during this period. Diversions can be expected which may include the S&C, Manchester and/or the ECML. I urge people to check RTT and the daily gen section of the website where I will try and unpick what is happening on a daily basis.

The blockade includes a complete closure of the WCML between Oxenholme and Carlisle inclusively during the above period. Please don't underestimate the programme of works taking place in the early of January 2026.

From 15th January 2026 onwards:

For the remainder of this period, there is no known planned engineering work on the WCML aside from those listed above. However, this situation can change at very short notice, therefore it is advisable to check real-time data sources for specific trains on specific days just to be sure that the train you're looking for is a runner or diverted.

East Anglia / GEML

- 1st January – Liverpool Street to Stratford shut
- 5th, 6th 7th and 8th January – late night closure of GEML. This may impact on electrically hauled freight to and from Ipswich.
- Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th – partial closure of GEML between Witham and Billericay. Some trains will operate, but the concise number including freight was not known at the time of going to press. Check RTT for local workings.
- Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th – partial closure of GEML between Witham and Billericay. Some trains will operate, but the concise number including freight was not known at the time of going to press. Check RTT for local workings.
- Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th – partial closure of GEML between Witham and Billericay. Some trains will operate, but the concise number including freight was not known at the time of going to press. Check RTT for local workings.
- Saturday 31st – partial closure of GEML between Beaulieu Park and Billericay. Some trains will operate, but the concise number including freight was not known at the time of going to press. Check RTT for local workings.

For the remainder of this period, there is no planned engineering work on the GEML. However, this situation can change at very short notice, therefore it is advisable to check real-time data sources for specific trains on specific days just to be sure that the train you're looking for is a runner or diverted.

DB CARGO

WCML / Scotland / Midlands / NW England:

Alterations for DB Cargo are no longer reported for the time being.
