

Freightliner Response to Directions dated 16 August 2019

In answer to the questions:

1. The issues are not solely with the type of traction. On the Friday it is as the only route through is with diesel traffic only. On the Saturday there is no route through Stratford which means diverting all of our affected services via Leicester, Peterborough & Ely and they would have to be diesel hauled.
2. At this stage Freightliner cannot guarantee being able to find replacement diesels for these services as we don't yet know which of these will be required for infrastructure services and until the locomotive diagrams are done for the December timetable we won't know how many diesels we will lose to Mendip services. On the comment about hiring in, that would depend on whether other FOC's would have spare locomotives over this period and whether they would be able to confirm that at this stage. Freightliner's preference would be to use it's own locomotives as it's not cost effective having electric locomotives sat round doing nothing and it's unlikely that we could cover the costs of hiring in as the fee paid by the Freight Compensation scheme would be nowhere near the cost of hiring in.

Simon Barrett
For Freightliner Ltd
19 August 2019