

Overspeeds in weather-related Blanket Emergency Speed Restrictions

News story

Overspeeds in weather-related Blanket Emergency Speed Restrictions on Western and Wales routes, 18 and 19 July 2022.

NOTICE TO TRAIN CREWS
BLANKET SPEED RESTRICTION
IMPOSED

Depot: _____ Date/Time: 19:00 Sunday 17th July 2022

Route: ALL LINES ON WESTERN ROUTE NORTH AND EAST OF COGLOAD JUNCTION (TAUNTON)

THE FOLLOWING BLANKET SPEED RESTRICTION HAS BEEN IMPOSED ON
MONDAY 18th JULY 2022 BETWEEN LOCATIONS SHOWN BELOW
FOR THE TIME PERIOD 12:00 TO 22:00 MONDAY 18th JULY 2022.
DURING THIS PERIOD THE SPEED OF ALL TRAINS MUST NOT EXCEED: -

30 60 MPH OR
THIRTY OVER SIXTY

Has this speed been imposed as a result of severe or adverse weather conditions? YES

Lines of Route:	ALL LINES
A1 or between:	PADDINGTON TO COGLOAD JUNCTION (VIA FORDGATE & ATHELNEY), INCLUDING ALL WESTERN ROUTE LINES NORTH AND EAST OF COGLOAD JN (TAUNTON) TO REGIONAL BOUNDARIES WITH NORTH WEST & CENTRAL WALES & WESSEX

Extract from the BESR notices issued by the Western route (courtesy of Network Rail)

During 18 and 19 July 2022, a number of trains were involved in incidents relating to the Blanket Emergency Speed Restrictions (BESRs) which had been imposed due to the extremely hot weather.

RAIB has identified that two of these incidents led to overspeeding and took place on the Western Route during 18 July. A further two incidents involving overspeeding and two incidents where drivers had not clearly understood BESRs occurred on the Wales route on 19 July.

We have undertaken a [preliminary examination](#) into the circumstances surrounding this incident. Having assessed the evidence which has been gathered to date, we have decided to publish a [safety digest](#).

The safety digest will be made available on our website in the next few weeks.

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