

# The journey of our new trains

Winter  
2017

WMR is established and orders for two brand new train fleets are placed



West Midlands  
Railway



Construction begins of our new  
Class 196 trains by manufacturer CAF

2018

Autumn  
2019

The first train is ready to be tested on the famous  
Velim test track in Eastern Europe



Second phase of production begins in Newport, Wales

Spring  
2020

Summer  
2020

With Covid-19 restrictions temporarily eased, our first  
196 units begin arriving in the West Midlands



The first trains in the fleet begin testing on the UK rail network

Autumn  
2020

2021

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the remaining  
trains are constructed, and on-track testing continues



Summer  
2022

Training begins for our drivers and senior conductors ready  
for the first trains to enter service on the Shrewsbury Line

Spring  
2023

Trains arrive on the Hereford/Worcester and  
Leamington – Nuneaton Lines

