

TRAM TRAIN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is a Tram Train?

A Tram Train is a tram-type vehicle that has the signalling, power supply, control and telecommunications technology to run on both street tram lines and the rail network. Passengers can make a single journey between tram stops and conventional rail stations on a Tram Train.

2. Where will Tram Trains run?

Tram Trains will run between Sheffield City Centre, Rotherham Central and Parkgate retail park. The service will run on the existing tram lines in Sheffield and use the stops between Cathedral and Meadowhall South before travelling on the main rail line to Parkgate via Rotherham Central station. Tram Trains will share the rail line with passenger and freight train services.

3. What is being built?

A new 400m piece of track (called a chord) will be built near Tinsley to connect the tram lines and rail lines. You can [read more about Tinsley chord](#) on the Network Rail website. The rail line between the chord and Parkgate will be electrified (to 750 V) and its signal system updated to let Tram Trains run. New Tram Train platforms will be built at Rotherham Central and Parkgate. Changes have been made to the tram depot so it can house Tram Trains. Parts of the tram network have also been replaced with new tracks to prepare for Tram Train.

4. When will services start?

The first Tram Train will arrive in the UK in December 2015. Seven Tram Trains will be delivered in total. Three Tram Trains will run on the Supertram network when they have been tested so there are more tram services for passengers. Three Tram Trains will run between the City Centre and Parkgate from 2017. One vehicle will be used as a spare.

5. Why has the project been rescheduled?

Tram Train is a first for the UK. The design and planning to make Tram Trains run on the rail network is complex. Some technological issues have been significant. The construction work timescale has also moved so it is aligned with other Network Rail projects.

6. What is the Tram Train pilot?

The Tram Train project is a trial or 'pilot' being held in South Yorkshire to see if the technology can be used elsewhere in the UK. It will run for two years while customer satisfaction, passenger numbers, reliability and costs are tested. The lessons learned will be published for the benefit of other areas. Tram Train will carry on as a local service if it is successful. South Yorkshire Passenger

Transport Executive is delivering the pilot with Network Rail, Northern Rail and Stagecoach Supertram. It is funded by the Department for Transport.

7. How often will services run?

Three Tram Trains an hour will travel between Sheffield and Rotherham. The running time from Parkgate to Cathedral will be about 25 minutes.

8. What are the Tram Train vehicles like?

South Yorkshire's Tram Trains are City Link Class 399 vehicles that are being built by a company called Vossloh in Spain. They meet the strict vehicle safety of a train but look similar to a tram. They have horns and wing mirrors and will be painted in the Stagecoach Supertram blue and yellow. Their brakes are designed to stop safely in all conditions, including City Centre traffic. Our Tram Trains are dual voltage vehicles so they can run on both the 750 V Overhead Line Equipment (OHLE) of Supertram's network and the 25 kV OHLE of the National Rail network. The whole route will be electrified to 750 V. Their dual voltage means the vehicles are 'future-proofed' for higher voltage rail lines.

9. What facilities do Tram Trains have?

The Tram Train interior is much like that of a tram. Access for passengers is the same and Tram Trains will have a conductor. They have CCTV and digital stop displays. There is some luggage space and the seats are bigger. Tram Trains do not have toilets like trains because they do not travel on long journeys. The journey terms and conditions, including rules for taking bikes, dogs and scooters onboard, will be set by Stagecoach Supertram.

10. What tickets will be used?

The tickets that can be used on Tram Trains are still to be decided. The idea is to make travelling on any public transport service between Rotherham and Sheffield as flexible as possible. Passengers will be able to use Tram Train tickets on Supertram and vice versa and be able to buy most tickets from a conductor.

11. Will there be any more Tram Train stops?

More Tram Train stops could be introduced in other places or the service extended if the pilot is successful and this can be funded.

12. Who looks after the service?

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTe) is delivering the Tram Train pilot with Network Rail, Northern Rail, Stagecoach Supertram and the Department for Transport (DfT). The pilot is funded by £51 million from the DfT. SYPTe manages the legal framework, will maintain the tram line part of the Tram Train route, owns the vehicles and looks after the contract (franchise) for the company that runs the Tram Trains. Network Rail will maintain the rail line part of the Tram Train route. Stagecoach Supertram will run the Tram Trains (under their current franchise), employ drivers and conductors, and maintain the vehicles at their depot at Nunnery Square.

13. Will Tram Train create any jobs?

There will be up to 35 jobs created by the Tram Train pilot, including drivers, conductors and construction staff. Tram Train also aims to help people in Sheffield and Rotherham travel to jobs, education and training. The extra transport link will offer better connections between businesses in the two areas and across the region to help the local economy to grow.

14. Where can I learn more about Tram Train?

More information about South Yorkshire's Tram Train pilot:

- online at www.sypte.co.uk/tramtrain
- call the SYPTE communications team on 0114 221 1443
- email communications@sypte.co.uk