
Victoria track crossing: FAQs for Monday 6 May works

There will be engineering works taking place on the Early May Bank Holiday (Monday 6 May) to replace the track crossing at Victoria

From start of service on Tuesday 7 May, services on all lines will operate as normal with East Didsbury and Rochdale trams operating via Exchange Square

What has happened at Victoria?

In January, a crack was found in a section of rail at Victoria. The rail is part of a track crossing which allows trams to travel to / from Exchange Square or Market Street and Shudehill.

To maintain safety and limit disruption, the decision was taken to temporarily remove the track crossing and replace it with a section of straight rail so trams can only travel to / from Market Street and Shudehill.

How has this affected tram services?

Most tram services returned to normal after the engineering works on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 January. However, trams on the Rochdale and East Didsbury lines have operated a different service pattern temporarily until the track crossing is replaced:

- East Didsbury – Rochdale Town Centre **via Market Street with more double trams**
- **East Didsbury – Exchange Square** (peak only)
- **No peak service between Victoria and Shaw and Crompton**

Every journey. Every day.

What is happening at Victoria on Monday 6 May 2024?

There will be engineering works taking place at Victoria on the Early May Bank Holiday (Monday 6 May). The works are to replace the track crossing removed in January and reconnect Victoria to Exchange Square.

During these works, Victoria tram stop will be closed and services will be affected. Visit our dedicated page to [find out more about service patterns and replacement bus services](#).

What does this mean for customers?

From the start of service on Tuesday 7 May, the East Didsbury – Rochdale Town Centre all-day service and East Didsbury – Shaw and Crompton peak service will return to their normal service pattern.

There may be a slight change to tram times on the East Didsbury and Rochdale as services operate via Exchange Square again. Use the [first and last tram times](#) tool to find the exact time of your journey or the [Bee Network app](#) to find live departures from your stop.

All other services returned to their normal service pattern on Monday 22 January 2024.

Why wasn't the track crossing replaced earlier?

The track crossing which was removed is not a standard piece of track and had to be designed specifically for the complex junction at Victoria. Because of this, Metrolink could not replace the track crossing with the supply of spare rails kept in store.

TfGM and Metrolink have worked closely with the track manufacturer to fix the cracked rail and limit the disruption to customers.

In addition, TfGM and Metrolink are working with suppliers to increase the amount of spare track kept in stock for complex junctions. By doing this, it is hoped that Metrolink can limit the likelihood of disruption to customers in the event of a similar disruption happening in the future.

What service pattern will operate from Tuesday 7 May?

From the start of service on Tuesday 7 May, all trams will operate as normal. This means services will operate:

- Altrincham – Piccadilly / Etihad Campus (to Etihad Campus after the peak)
- Bury – Piccadilly
- Altrincham – Bury (peak only)
- East Didsbury – Rochdale Town Centre
- East Didsbury – Shaw and Crompton (peak only)
- Ashton-under-Lyne – Eccles (via MediaCityUK outside the peak)
- MediaCityUK – Etihad Campus (peak only)
- Manchester Airport – Victoria

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- The Trafford Centre – Deansgate-Castlefield

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