

## **Eccles line closure 2018 - FAQs**

### **What works are taking place?**

The main work is linking in the new Trafford Park Line to the existing Metrolink network at Pomona. We are working with the Metrolink operator and partners to deliver other works at the same time, minimising disruption for customers as well as local residents and businesses. Other minor works to complete the connection will be carried out in 2019 and 2020.

### **What tram services will be available during this time?**

There will be no trams between Cornbrook and Eccles. Services from Ashton-under-Lyne will terminate at Deansgate-Castlefield. Other tram services will run as usual.

### **What alternative travel options will be available?**

During the works there will be a full bus replacement operating including additional services during peak times. Full information on these will be advertised closer to the time.

### **Will first and last services change during the works?**

No, where replacement bus services are running these will operate to the same timetable as trams for first and last services.

### **How will the works be communicated to customers?**

A comprehensive communications campaign has been planned to ensure customers, residents and businesses are kept informed well before and during the works. This includes: drop-in sessions; letters and emails to stakeholders; face-to-face visits; customer information across the network, including posters, announcements and information displays; across social media channels and through a dedicated webpage – [www.tfgm.com/eccles-line](http://www.tfgm.com/eccles-line)

### **When will works be taking place and will they be noisy?**

Works will be taking place around the clock during the closure to ensure as much work as possible is completed during the time of the closure. Noisier works will be confined to daytimes where possible. Where this is not possible local residents will be informed by letter.

### **What other disruptive works are planned during the closure?**

We are working with the Metrolink operator and other partners, such as Salford City Council, to see whether any other works can take place at the same time, so as to minimise

overall disruption to tram passengers, local residents and businesses. This is likely to include maintenance works on the tram network and repairs to the highways in the local area, however final details are yet to be confirmed. We will update this webpage with the relevant information when any additional works have been agreed, along with any stakeholders who may be impacted.

### **Will there be any further disruptive works in the area?**

There are further minor works planned in 2019 and 2020 to fully connect the new Trafford Park Line with the rest of the network. There may also be further maintenance works required on the line. These will be advertised closer to the time.

### **Didn't you close the Eccles line in 2016 for major works? Why was this other work not completed then?**

The closure of the Eccles line is required to facilitate work at Pomona as part of the extension to the Trafford Centre – it is not connected with the rail replacement works that were completed in 2016. To minimise overall disruption, the operator and other third parties are taking the opportunity to undertake standard maintenance and repairs along the line and in the local area during the closure.

### **What is the Trafford Park line?**

It's a new tram line that will run from the existing Pomona Metrolink stop on the Eccles line right through Trafford Park, Europe's largest industrial estate and terminate at intu Trafford Centre, the region's largest retail and leisure complex. It includes six new tram stops at key locations along the route which will improve the connectivity across/through the area.

### **Why are you building this line?**

The Trafford Park line will support regeneration and economic growth by greatly improving public transport access to employment, business, retail and leisure opportunities.

The Trafford Park area is currently home to over 1,400 businesses and over 35,000 employees. The new line will provide a sustainable alternative to car travel and significantly improve access by public transport to employment opportunities in the industrial estate.

The new line will also connect to popular retail and leisure destinations including the intu Trafford Centre EventCity, Imperial War Museum North, Salford Quays and Old Trafford football ground.

### **Where will the line run?**

The Trafford Park line is approximately 5.5km long and will include six new stops. The line will leave the existing Metrolink network at Pomona and pass underneath the Trafford Road Bridge. The route will then run along the canal side (up to Quay West) before traversing

Trafford Wharf Road, Warren Bruce Road, Village Way, Park Way, Barton Dock Road and terminating at a new Trafford Centre tram stop.

### **Where will Metrolink services stop?**

Trafford Park line services will run to six new stops at:

- Wharfside – located at the edge of Trafford Park on the bank of the Manchester Ship Canal, close to Manchester United Football Club.
- Imperial War Museum – for the world-renowned museum and access to MediaCityUK via the existing footbridges.
- Village – located on Village Way, near Village Circle and Third Avenue.
- Parkway – located at the existing Parkway Circle roundabout which will include a park & ride facility with approximately 200 car park spaces
- EventCity – located by Barton Square and EventCity.
- Trafford Centre – located at intu Trafford Centre, Barton Dock Road.

### **What are the benefits?**

The new Trafford Park line will bring a range of benefits, including:

- Improved access to job opportunities along the line, including major employers at Trafford Park industrial estate, which is currently poorly served by public transport, and the intu Trafford Centre.
- Improved access to major cultural, shopping and leisure opportunities along the route, including the intu Trafford Centre, EventCity, Imperial War Museum North, MediaCityUK Salford Quays and Old Trafford football ground.
- Improved connectivity across Greater Manchester and the wider 93 stop Metrolink network.
- Supporting regeneration and economic growth in the areas it passes through.
- Offering a sustainable public transport alternative to car travel for businesses, employees, local residents and visitors.

### **Who is building the line?**

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will continue its award-winning collaboration with MPact Thales (MPT) and WSP to deliver the Metrolink extension to intu Trafford Centre via Trafford Park.

MPT is a consortium of VolkerRail, Laing O'Rourke and Thales. VolkerRail and Laing O'Rourke will continue to be responsible for the design and construction of the civil engineering and track works, while Thales will deliver the tram operating systems and WSP will continue as TfGM's Delivery Partner.

This partnership has already successfully delivered extensions to MediaCityUK, Manchester Airport, Ashton, East Didsbury, Oldham and Rochdale and the Second City Crossing.

### **How can I keep up-to-date with progress?**

As part of the preliminary construction and utility works there will be localised traffic management at locations along the route, for example, isolated lane closures.

Further information will be available at [www.tfgm.com/MetrolinkTPL](http://www.tfgm.com/MetrolinkTPL) as the project progresses. You can also sign up [here](#) to stay in the loop with all the latest news, updates and travel advice.

See progress with the new line by following #MetrolinkTPL on Twitter and Facebook or, to speak to someone, call TfGM on 0161 244 1555 (lines open during office hours).

### **Who do I contact with a query?**

Please contact the Metrolink team on 0161 244 1555 (office hours) or email [MetrolinkTPL@tfgm.com](mailto:MetrolinkTPL@tfgm.com)