

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

25th October 2018

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TramForward welcomes the launch of public service on Sheffield-Rotherham TramTrain Pilot.

TramForward welcomes the long-awaited launch of the TramTrain service between Sheffield and Rotherham, which began operation this morning (25th October).

This pilot scheme, which has already identified solutions to many of the technical, commercial and legal issues for TramTrain operation in this country, will guide the way for the introduction of this technology elsewhere.

TramTrains can both operate on city streets and interoperate with mainline services on “heavy” rail lines. The TramTrain concept originated in Karlsruhe in Germany and it has been adopted in several other countries over recent years. TramTrains enable the operation of a frequent service on suburban rail lines connecting directly to city centre destinations using street tramways.

There are many examples in this country where disused or underused rail lines could be given a new lease of life with TramTrain and several cities already have plans for TramTrain operation.

As well as being a pilot for TramTrain operation, the line will provide a new service to the public, running every 20 minutes from Sheffield Cathedral to Rotherham Parkgate throughout the day.

Paul Rowen, Chairman of the Light Rail Transit Association, said “we are very pleased to see this line open, providing both a useful new public transport link for the region and a test bed for TramTrain operation, hopefully leading to the adoption of TramTrain in other parts of the country”.

NOTES

1. **TramForward** is the campaigning arm of the Light Rail Transit Association (LRTA).
2. The LRTA (<http://www.lrta.org/>) is the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport in urban areas through light rail, tramway and metro systems and has been in existence for more than 80 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail and TramTrain technology.
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