

Works Notice

November 2025

Signalling system testing and training

A new digital signalling system is being progressively installed to key parts of the South East Queensland (SEQ) rail network, including as part of the Cross River Rail project. The system has been installed for testing and training purposes along the Shorncliffe line.

Overview

Ongoing testing of the new European Train Control System (ETCS) and the training of Queensland Rail staff is now taking place along the Shorncliffe line and will continue into 2026.

To carry out these activities safely and efficiently, we need to temporarily close sections of track, as this work can't be completed while normal services are running. This means changes to travel and transport services on the Shorncliffe line.

Upcoming closures

There will be temporary changes to some evening services and full day track closures on the Shorncliffe line to facilitate ongoing system testing and the start of operational training. This is an important next step in the rollout of the new digital signalling system.

During testing and training, you may see Queensland Rail staff at stations and trains travelling and stopping between Bindha and Shorncliffe - although these trains are not in service.

Date and timing	Closure type	Location	Type of work
First service Saturday 15 November to last service on Tuesday 18 November	Full day track closures		System testing and operational training
 From 7:45pm to last service, each evening: Monday 3 to Wednesday 5 November Monday 10 to Thursday 13 November Wednesday 19 and Thursday 20 November Monday 24 and Thursday 27 November 	Weeknight track closure	Between Northgate and Shorncliffe stations	System testing
First service Saturday 13 December to last service on Tuesday 16 December	Full day track closures		System testing and operational training

Further track closures on the Shorncliffe line will continue into 2026. Exact dates and times will be confirmed and communicated ahead of each testing period.

Why was the Shorncliffe line selected for signalling system testing and training?

The Shorncliffe line was selected to pilot the system due to lower customer numbers compared to other parts of the rail network and because it sits outside the mainline and freight corridor.

Testing and training of ETCS on the Shorncliffe line to confirm the system meets safety regulations and operational requirements is critical before it is gradually rolled out to key parts of the South East Queensland rail network over the next decade.

Alternate transport arrangements

When testing and training are scheduled, buses will replace trains between Northgate and Shorncliffe stations. Shorncliffe line trains will continue to run between Northgate station and the city, in both directions.

Railbus routes

Route	Closure types	Destinations	Times	Frequency
R348	Full day and weeknight closures	All stations between Northgate and Shorncliffe	First to last service	Approximately every 30 minutes
R347	Weekday closures only	Express between Northgate and Sandgate	First service to 7pm	Approximately every 15 minutes

Please plan your journey closer to the time to find your fastest travel option. We encourage you to plan ahead by downloading the Translink app, visiting translink.com.au or calling 13 12 30.

What to expect if you live near the rail corridor

- Increased noise associated with testing and training (traffic control set-up and pack down, train movements, horns, light vehicles and work personnel)
- Additional vehicle movements including railbus operations.

For these upcoming closures, traffic control will be in place at Adams Street, Kennerley Street, Curlew Street and Palm Avenue level crossings and at the Nudgee Pedestrian Crossing (city side of Nudgee station).

Between 3.00am and 9.00am on Saturday 15 November, modification works to trackside signalling equipment will be undertaken using hand tools in preparation for testing. These activities will occur at North Boondall, Deagon and Sandgate stations, as well as between Deagon and Sandgate stations.

Ongoing testing and training

To support continued testing and training of ETCS, further weeknight and full day closures on the Shorncliffe line will continue into 2026.

We will continue to keep the community updated ahead of planned testing and training activities. Detailed information about transport changes on the Shorncliffe line and alternative transport options will be provided in advance of each testing period.

ETCS plays an important part in the future of our network, delivering increased safety, capacity, efficiency, and reliability for a sustainable transport network. We understand track closures are an inconvenience.

Thank you for your patience as we undertake these critical works.

For more information about ETCS on the Shorncliffe line

















If you need an interpreter to assist you in

Queensland on 13 QGOV (13 74 68)