

Works Notice

May 2026

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 throughout 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 evening and weekend services on the Shorncliffe line in May to facilitate ongoing system testing. This is an important next step in the rollout of the new digital signalling system.

During testing, you may see trains travelling and stopping between Bindha and Sandgate - although these trains are not in service.

Date and timing	Closure type	Location	Type of work
From 7:45pm to last service, each evening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 4 May and Tuesday 5 May Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 May 	Weeknight track closure	Between Northgate and Sandgate stations	QR maintenance (4 May) System testing
Each day between 6.00am and 10.00pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday 3 May Saturday 9 to Sunday 10 May Saturday 16 to Sunday 17 May Saturday 23* to Sunday 24 May Saturday 30 to Sunday 31 May <p>*Please note testing will be completed 24 hrs on Saturday 23 May.</p>	Weekend track closure	Between Northgate and Sandgate stations	System testing

Further track closures on the Shorncliffe line throughout 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.

Shorncliffe station is temporarily closed until mid-2026 for a station renewal and accessibility upgrade.

Railbus routes

Route	Closure types	Destinations	Times	Frequency
R348	Weeknight and weekend closures	All stations between Northgate and Shorncliffe	First to last service	Approximately every 30 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

- Noise associated with testing (traffic control set-up and pack down, train movements, horns, light vehicles and 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). Traffic control will also be in place at St Vincents Road level crossing Banyo on Saturday 23 May.

Ongoing testing and training

To support continued testing and training of ETCS, further closures will continue on the Shorncliffe line throughout 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



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crossriverrail.qld.gov.au



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