

Mobility scooters and trams

Tram companies are not obliged by law to carry mobility scooters, but some will do if they meet certain criteria.

Below we provide an overall summary of the tram operators' policies and also give brief information on each, as at June 2015. For more detail and to apply for a permit, where schemes operate, you will need to contact the tram company directly.

Overall summary

Of the seven tram operators, six allow carriage of mobility scooters. Of these, Sheffield Supertram, Manchester Metrolink, Midland Metro and Blackpool Tramway have implemented variations of the [Confederation of Passenger Transport \(CPT\) code](#) for the carriage of mobility scooters on buses. The other two tram operators do not have formal limitations on the size and type of mobility scooter that can board.

Summary of tram operators' policies

	Allow mobility scooters?	Permit scheme?
Blackpool (Tramway)	Yes	Yes
Croydon (Tramlink)	Yes	No
Manchester (Metrolink)	Yes	Yes
Midlands (Midland Metro)	Yes	Yes
Nottingham (NET)	Yes	No
Sheffield (Supertram)	Yes	Yes
Tyne and Wear (Metro)	No	n/a

Individual tram policies

Blackpool: Blackpool Tramway

Blackpool tramway is currently operated by Blackpool Transport. The trams have level access (ramps are not required) and there are conductors on board each tram.

Current policy/practice

Blackpool Transport currently operates an adapted version of the CPT code on the tramway, as well as on the buses. The CPT code states that scooters must be Class 2 and meet certain specifications (1000mm length, 600mm width, 1200mm turning circle).

Consumer research for older and disabled people

Customers can be issued with passes which state that the mobility scooter is suitable for the tram.

Croydon: London Tramlink

London Tramlink provide the tram service in Croydon. The trams have step-free access, and each tram contains two dedicated wheelchair spaces.

Current policy/practice

All mobility scooters can be taken on Croydon trams – there are no regulations on the types of scooter that can board and no permit scheme in operation.

Manchester: Metrolink

The trams have level access to platforms (ramps are not required) and all stations/stops are wheelchair accessible. There are no conductors on board.

Current policy/practice

Transport for Greater Manchester have implemented a Metrolink mobility scooter permit scheme, under which both the customer and their mobility scooter are assessed and issued with a permit if accepted. Mobility scooters are assessed using the criteria set out in the CPT code (1000mm length, 600mm width, 1200mm turning circle, combined user/scooter weight under 300kg).

Midlands: Midland Metro

Trams are level-access with two designated wheelchair spaces and there is a conductor on board each one.

Current policy/practice

Midland Metro has implemented a version of the CPT code permit scheme on their trams. In order to travel, scooter users must have a permit which shows that they have received training and that their scooter meets certain criteria (Class 2, 1000mm length, 600mm width, 1200mm turning circle, combined user/scooter weight under 300Kg).

Nottingham: NET

The tram network has step-free access throughout along with dedicated wheelchair spaces. Conductors are present on each tram.

Current policy/practice

At present, use of scooters on the trams is not regulated. However, in future their revised Conditions of Carriage will specify that scooters must be able to fit into the wheelchair space. Scooter users will also be required to move out of the wheelchair space if a wheelchair user requires it, and when outside of the wheelchair space must park longitudinally. This is to reduce obstruction and minimise the risk of tipping.

Sheffield: Supertram

All trams now have wheelchair spaces, and the system is level access without the need for ramps.

Current policy/practice

The Supertram has been implementing a version of the CPT code permit scheme on their trams. In order to travel, scooter users must have a permit which shows that they have received training and that their scooter meets certain criteria (Class 2, 1000mm length, 600mm width, 1200mm turning circle, combined user/scooter weight under 300kg).

Tyne and Wear: Tyne and Wear Metro

All stations have step-free access. The fleet is currently undergoing refurbishment – refurbished Metrocars contain designated wheelchair spaces, and station accessibility is being enhanced in an on-going programme. The system is largely unstaffed.

Current policy/practice

Mobility scooters may not be used on the Tyne and Wear Metro, although lightweight scooters that have been folded up may be carried on.