

The Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail System) (Croydon Tramlink) Exemption Order 2025

The Secretary of State makes this Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 183(1),(2),(4)(a),(5),(7) and 207(1) of the Equality Act 2010(a).

In accordance with section 183(4) of the Equality Act 2010 the Secretary of State has consulted with the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee(b) and such other persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

Citation and Commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail System) (Croydon Tramlink) Exemption Order 2025 and comes into force on 02 July 2025.

Interpretation

2. In this Order —

“exempt vehicle” means a rail vehicle of the type known as Stadler Variobahn trams numbered 2554, 2555, 2556,2557,2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564 and 2565; and

“Tramlink” has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Croydon Tramlink Act 1994(c).

Exemption relating to facilities for disabled persons

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) an exempt vehicle is authorised to be used for carriage on the Tramlink, even if it does not conform with the requirement that in passenger information displays, descenders must have a minimum size ratio of 20% to upper case characters as set out in paragraph 4(2) of Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail Systems) Regulations 2010(d) —

(2) The authorisation under paragraph (1) applies to an exempt vehicle provided that in passenger information displays, descenders have a minimum size ratio of 13% to upper case characters.

(3) In this Article —

(a) “descender” means that part of any of the letters g, j, p, q or y which protrudes below the level of the base of other letters; and

(b) “other letters” means the letters a, c, e, m, n, o, r, s, u, v, w, x and z.

(a) 2010 c. 15; section 183(7) was inserted by the Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), Schedule 10, paragraph 29(3).

(b) The Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee was established under section 125 of the Transport Act 1985 (c. 67) and has a statutory duty to provide the Government with advice on the public passenger transport needs of disabled people.

(c) 1994 c. xi.

(d) S.I. 2010/432.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for the Department of Transport.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Peter Hendy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

01 July 2025

The Lord Hendy of Richmond Hill CBE,
Minister of State for Rail
Department for Transport