



# Safety on the line explained

**GUIDELINES FOR EVENTS, CONTRACTORS & OTHERS WORKING ON OR NEAR TRAMWAYS.**

If you own or occupy a building near the tramway, please give a copy of this leaflet to anyone carrying out work on the building for you.

## WORKING ON OR NEAR THE TRAMWAY

All works or events that may impact upon the Tramway **MUST have a Permit to Work ISSUED PRIOR** to the works or events commencing. The necessary information in relation to the above is obtained from:

The Tramway Safety Officer, Blackpool Council  
Layton Department, Plymouth Road, Blackpool  
Tel: 01253 476145 Email: tso@blackpool.gov.uk

The purpose of this leaflet is to outline the main risks and the methods of preventing injury to you, your colleagues, the tram crews, passengers and members of the general public.

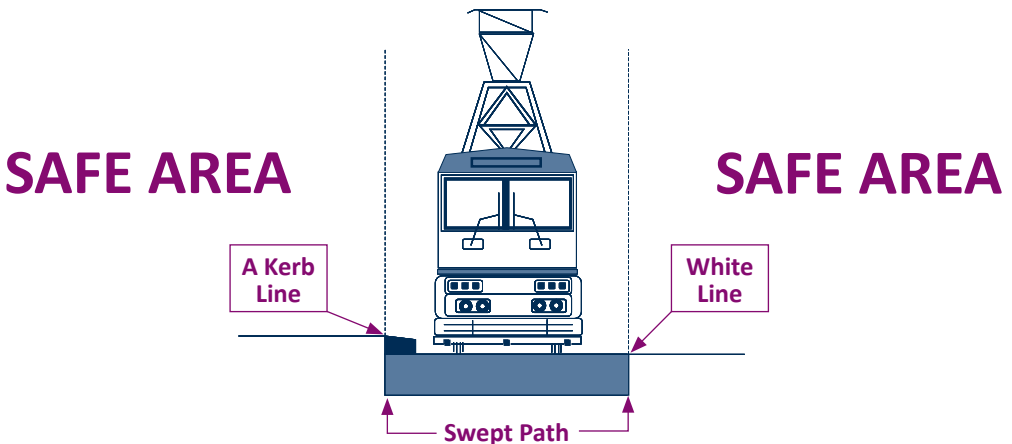
There are two main areas of risk:

- Collision with Tramcar
- Electrocutation

Note: the upgraded tramway is very quiet and vibration free. Be aware of your surroundings

### (1) RISK OF COLLISION WITH TRAMCAR

It is important to appreciate that unlike other traffic a tramcar cannot swerve around a person or obstruction placed in its path. Furthermore it must be realised that a tramcar is much wider than the tracks on which it operates. It is, however, very easy to define the path of the vehicle and therefore the danger zone.



This danger zone is referred to as the **SWEPT PATH**, for the entire length of the tramway; the **SWEPT PATH** is defined by one or more of the following:

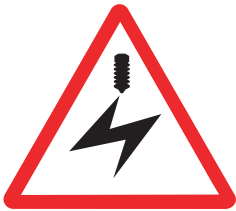
- Solid White Line or dotted yellow line
- Kerb
- Tramway fencing

Personnel, vehicles and plant must be kept clear of the SWEPT PATH at all times including loading and unloading. The use of the Tramway by motor vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists and plant is strictly prohibited.

Only designated crossing points must be used to cross the Tramway (these are specially constructed to carry road vehicles). NOTE: The maximum safe height at these locations under the live overhead cables is 4.88m (16ft).

**NOTE:** When working on or near to the tramway all personnel must wear high visibility clothing which complies with the requirements of Chapter 8 and Tramway Safety on the Line Document. Any person working on the Tramway must have a valid Track Safety Authorisation Card.

## (2) RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK



# DANGER

## Live Wires Overhead

### OVERHEAD LINE CLEARANCES

## DANGER ZONE

## SAFETY ZONE

Maximum Working  
3.96m (13ft)

Maximum Safe transit  
4.88m (16ft)

## SAFETY ZONE

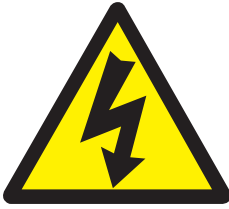
The overhead line (OHLE) that powers the Tramcars is energised at 600 volts DC and is potentially extremely dangerous.

It is vital that **ALL OVERHEAD LINE EQUIPMENT IS TREATED AS LIVE AT ALL TIMES** Special consideration is required in all the areas where the OHLE spans beyond the swept path, such as Lord St, Lytham Rd and Metropole Hotel area.

### The permit to work will allow you to safely operate near to the tramway:

- (i) Nothing must be used within two metres (6.6 feet) of the overhead line or vertically above it. Special care must be taken to ensure that items of plant e.g. Hiabs, Excavators, Cranes etc. are not used in this area Special attention is drawn to the use of scaffolds, window cleaning and roof repairs or maintenance to nearby buildings or street lighting.
- (ii) Ladders used adjacent to live overhead lines MUST be made of wood or other non-conductive material and no longer than 2 metres.

## UNDERGROUND CABLES



**DANGER**  
**Buried Cable**

In addition to the usual utilities underground apparatus found on work sites the Tramway is supplied by an extensive network of underground cables carrying the 600 volts DC. The equipment **IS OFTEN** located outside the **SWEPT PATH** markings. It is essential therefore that **ALL CABLES** are located **BEFORE** excavation commences.

Contact should be made with Blackpool Transport Services who will supply service plans in relation to the 600 volt underground cable network.

### **Blackpool Transport Services**

Rigby Road

Blackpool

Contact: Team Manager (Engineering)

Tel: **01253 473001**

## WORKING IN THE HIGHWAY

All work in the highway must be protected to at least the standard required by Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

However, when road works are carried out on a street, which also contains a Tramway, difficulties may be experienced in meeting the traffic control, safety zones and barrier requirements. The site interface between the tramway and the work area must be protected by barriers set at least 500mm away from the swept path. Detailed advice covering these circumstances may be obtained from the Tramway Safety Officer (TSO).

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Whilst working on or near to the Tramway, emergencies may arise – you may well be the first person on the scene. It is important therefore that you are able to take the right action quickly.

Contact should be made with:

Emergency Services Dial 999

Blackpool Transport Services Tel: 01253 473001

**NEVER ATTEMPT TO RECOVER EQUIPMENT OR TO RESCUE  
PEOPLE IN CONTACT WITH THE OVERHEAD LINE SYSTEM**