

Factsheet

Electrified track

Our trains travel on 75 miles of electrified railway track.

The trains' power is supplied from a live or 'third' rail at the side of the railway track.

The electricity is at a voltage of 750 volts and is never switched off even on Christmas Day.

Even when a train is not on the tracks the electricity is still passing through the live rail.

Apart from the dangers from trains, the live rail is a major hazard to anyone trying to take

a short cut across or along the railway tracks.

Despite there being warning signs, a number of young people and adults have been electrocuted when they have stepped on the rail not knowing it was live.

Others have died knowing the rail was live but have tripped or stumbled onto it either accidentally or after drinking too much.

