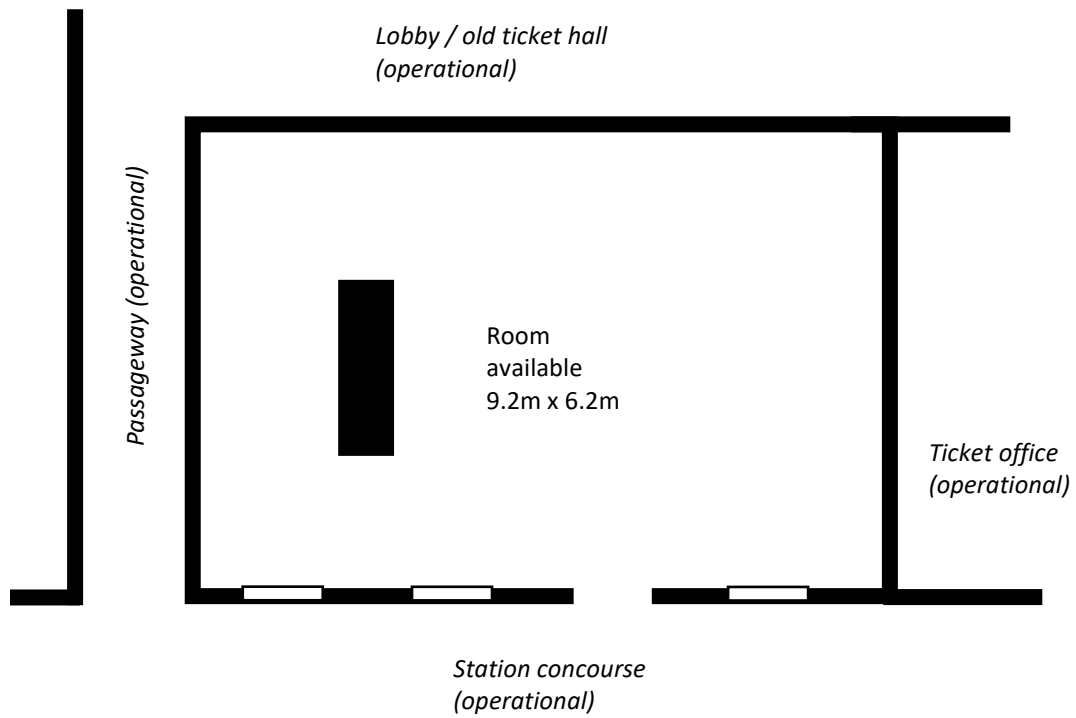


South Western Railway

Floorplan (NB sizes are approx.)



South Western Railway

Portsmouth and Southsea station: Redundant Space for Community Use



South Western Railway

Portsmouth and Southsea station: Redundant Space for Community Use

South Western Railway (SWR) and the Community Rail Network are working together to identify redundant space at railway stations and make them available to community groups and organisations or non-profit/not-for-dividend companies delivering community benefit.

This information sheet details one of the spaces available, at Portsmouth and Southsea station in the city of Portsmouth. If this space is of interest to you, another booklet is available detailing the process for leasing redundant spaces at stations.

Description of space available

This redundant space at Portsmouth and Southsea station is an old ticket office area, no longer in use. It is a large single room within the main part of the station and is accessed through a door leading off the station's main internal concourse. It has three windows. It has electricity (currently disconnected) and although it currently has no sink/taps/toilet, there is a water pipe and soil pipe running through the room and it is possible that these could be used to provide such facilities. Railway data cables run across the ceiling but there is plenty of height to fit a false ceiling to hide these (the room is 4.5m tall), and SWR would work with a tenant to ensure the data cables were kept operational.

Potential uses

Properly refurbished, this building could make an ideal open-plan office for a community business, or a multi-use or exhibition space. SWR and the Community Rail Network are, however, open to any reasonable suggestion for community use and this list is not exhaustive.

Access

Access is off the station concourse, via a locked door. There are no steps.

Facilities/services

Electricity: Yes (disconnected)

Gas: No

Water: No, but possibility of using water/waste pipes to install

Heating: No, but electric heaters could be installed

Windows: Single-glazed

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General advice about redundant space at stations for community use

If you decide to take on this space, following 'in principle' agreement from SWR you will need to liaise with the company's appointed property advisors AmeyTPT. AmeyTPT will issue 'heads of terms' setting out the key details for a new lease. Once heads of terms are agreed, AmeyTPT will obtain approval from SWR, make a formal application to the freeholder, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (NRIL) and once consents have been received will instruct SWR's solicitors, Hill Dickinson. The lease will have an expiry date no later than the end of the SWR franchise, which is 18 August 2024. Rents will be negotiable but set at a level commensurate with the use of the space as a community asset.

You will be responsible for paying for services (water, gas, electricity) and legal costs for the new lease. SWR will clear the space of its contents but you will be responsible for decorating the space. Should you wish to undertake any building works, you will need to provide SWR with your fit out plans.

Safety is of the utmost importance. All works proposed to the premises, including redecoration will need to be detailed in Method Statements and Risk Assessments that must be approved by SWR's Safety Review team. If structural works are proposed then approval must be obtained from the freehold owner, NRIL.

As a tenant you will be responsible for internal repairs including repairs and redecoration of windows and doors. NRIL is responsible for any repairs to the exterior of the station.

More details about acceptable uses for such spaces, the process for leasing them, and who is responsible for what, are available in another booklet which can be requested via the contact details below.

Contact

For more information or to express an interest in this space, please contact Daniel Wright, Community Rail Support Officer (Community Rail Network), at daniel@communityrail.org.uk / 07398 984784 or Paul Aldridge, Community Rail Manager (SWR) at paula.aldridge@swrailway.com / 07971 799651