

**Press Release**

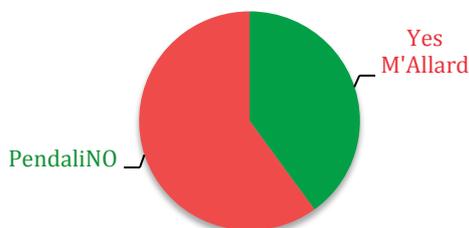
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# **BREXIT VOTERS WOULD REPLACE HS2 WITH STEAM TRAINS**

The Daily Election polled our members and discovered a surprisingly strong support for a return to steam railways.

When asked the question “**How about converting UK mainline rail back to steam?**” 44% of users voted FOR converting the mainline network back to steam.

## **How about converting UK mainline rail back to steam?**

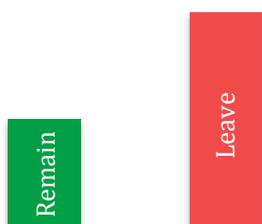


The poll was inspired by the A1 Peppercorn Trust, who built the first new steam train in the UK since the 1960s, Tornado. The trust, who also operate Tornado, aim to change policy which currently limits steam trains to 70mph on mainline tracks. By running Tornado at a speed over 100mph they hope to open the popular ‘specials’ business to a wider market as trains will be more free to run between standard express trains. The

suggestion in the poll (to replace all services with steam!) obviously goes a long way further, but indicates the level of support for steam.

If steam enthusiasts were seeking to replace diesel and electric services with steam, they can look to Brexit voters for support. Our poll showed that they are twice as likely to vote YES.

## **Steam/Brexit**



It also appeared that political allegiances tended to follow the same trend, with UKIP and Conservative voters more likely to suppose ‘Steamification’ while more ‘progressive’ parties’ supporters were less willing to go along with the idea.

When sorted by age voters aged 15-30 were split 50/50, 30-45 year-olds were more-or-less still onboard with 45% support. However among over-45s we noted a large swing against the concept. Perhaps they remember the flaws..?

*Note to editors:*

*The Daily Election is a polling app available on iPhone/iPad and on Android devices and is free.*

*The app was launched in 2016 as an alternative to traditional pollsters. The app allows us to take the pulse of the millennial generation, though users range from teenagers to our oldest user in their 90s!*

*The app was founded by James Howell and Phil Clarke.*

## **Steam/age**

