

**David Reed**  
**Senior Manager, Access Policy**  
Telephone: 020 7282 3754  
Email: david.reed@orr.gsi.gov.uk



17 October 2019

Daniel Fredriksson  
Customer Relationship Executive  
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited  
The Quadrant:MK  
Elder Gate  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1EN

Richard McClean  
Managing Director  
Grand Central Railway Company Limited  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Northern House  
Rougier Street  
York  
YO1 6HZ

Dear Daniel and Richard,

**Track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Grand Central Railway Limited for new services between Blackpool and London**

1. We have today directed Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) to enter into a new a track access contract with Grand Central Railway Limited (Grand Central) for new services between Blackpool and London. This follows our decision on 7 June 2018 to approve an application made by Great North Western Railway Company Limited (a sister-company of Grand Central) for these services.
2. Following this decision we reviewed the drafting of the contract and held a series of discussions with both Grand Central and Network Rail. As part of these discussions, Grand Central wrote to us on 25 July 2019 proposing changes to the company name to be included on the contract, specified rolling stock, and level of station investment. We are content with the reasons given by Grand Central for each of these proposed changes. In particular we note that Network Rail has confirmed its support for the use of Class 90 rolling stock for the services. We are also content with the lower level of station investment due to the shorter overall length of the contract.
3. Copies of this letter will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Reed', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

**David Reed**

