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29 July 2013

Jim Critchley  
Planning, Stakeholder & Approvals Manager  
Metrolink  
Transport for Greater Manchester  
2 Piccadilly Place  
Manchester  
M1 3BG

Dear Mr Critchley

**Woodlands Road station – Department for Transport request for ratification of closure**

- 1) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Woodlands Road station. Under the power granted in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (“the Act”), the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) **requires you to display this notice at Woodlands Road station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.**
- 2) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to the Department for Transport, and to all the parties consulted by the Department for Transport. A copy of the notice will also appear on the ORR website and will be placed on the ORR public register.
- 3) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked that the Department for Transport has:
  - a) provided ORR with the appropriate documentation.
  - b) followed the consultation requirements laid down in the Act, and by the Railways Closure Guidance issued by the Secretary of State on 18 October 2006.
  - c) reasonably applied the criteria for appraising such proposals, as laid out in the Railways Closure Guidance.
  - d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.



- 4) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We received comments from Manchester City Council and a local passenger group - the Save our Station Woodlands Road Committee. We have replied to those parties separately.

Yours sincerely

**Stuart Freer**