

Stephanie Toby
Director, Economics, Markets and Strategy

9 June 2022

To the company secretaries of the organisations listed in the annex

Dear Sir/Madam,

Review Initiation Notice pursuant to Schedule 4A of the Railways Act 1993

Today we are giving formal notice of our intention to undertake an access charges review. Accordingly, please find enclosed by way of service two notices issued under Paragraph 1C of Schedule 4A to the Railways Act 1993.

This access charge review, which we refer to as the 2023 periodic review (or PR23), will determine what Network Rail is expected to deliver with respect to its infrastructure operations and the level of funding that it is provided with for the five year period from 1 April 2024 (known as control period 7 (or CP7)). This will feed through into the service that passengers and freight customers receive and, together with taxpayers, ultimately pay for. It will also affect the access charges that Network Rail's passenger, freight and charter train operator customers will pay to use its track and stations in CP7. We note that we have already begun developing our policy approach for some aspects of PR23, including for our review of Network Rail's access charges, and we are currently consulting on proposals in respect of access charging. This notice serves as the formal notice for this review.

As well as giving formal notice of our intention to carry out an access charges review, the notices set out the dates by which the Secretary of State and Scottish Ministers must each provide their High-Level Output Specification (HLOS) and Statement of Funds Available (SoFA). The two notices provide for different deadlines for the Secretary of State (28 October 2022) and Scottish Ministers (30 November 2022) to submit their HLOSs and SoFAs.

The HLOS and SoFA, respectively, set out what government wants to be achieved by railway activities during the next control period and the public financial resources that they expect to make available to support this. Both HLOS and SoFA documents will inform Network Rail's Strategic Business Plan (due to be published in February 2023) and, ultimately, the determination that we will issue for Network Rail for CP7, due in October 2023.

Further information on PR23 is available on our website (www.orr.gov.uk/pr23). To subscribe for email updates on PR23, please get in touch using the PR23 inbox address, PR23@orr.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully



Stephanie Toby



Annex

Abellio East Anglia Limited	Locomotive Services (TOC) Limited (Freight Services)
Abellio East Midlands Limited	Locomotive Services (TOC) Limited (Charter Passenger Services)
Abellio ScotRail Limited	London Gateway Port Limited
Arriva Rail London Limited	London North Eastern Railway Limited
Associated British Ports	London Underground Limited
The Chiltern Railway Company Limited	Loram UK Limited
Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway Company Limited	Mersey rail Electrics 2002 Limited
Colas Rail Limited	MTR Corporation (Crossrail) Limited
Crossrail Limited	Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
DB Cargo (UK) Limited	North Yorkshire Moors Railway Enterprises Plc
Devon and Cornwall Railways Limited	Northern Trains Limited
Direct Rail Services Limited	Peak Rail Plc
Direct Rail Services Limited (Charter Passenger Services)	Rail Express Systems Limited
East Coast Trains Limited	Rail Operations Group Limited
Eurostar International Limited	Rail Operations (UK) Limited
Festiniog Railway Company Limited	SE Trains Limited
First Greater Western Limited	Serco Caledonian Sleepers Ltd
First Greater Western Limited (Charter Passenger Services)	SLC Operations Limited (Freight Services)
First MTR South Western Trains Limited	SLC Operations Limited (Charter Passenger Services)
First Trans Pennine Express Limited	South Yorkshire Super Tram Limited
First Trenitalia West Coast Rail Limited	Tarmac Trading Limited
Freightliner Limited	Transport for Wales Rail Limited
Freightliner Heavy Haul Limited	Trenitalia c2c Limited



GB Rail freight Limited	Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive (NEXUS)
GB Rail freight Limited (Charter Passenger Services)	Varamis Limited
Govia Thameslink Railway Limited	Victa Rail freight Limited
Grand Central Railway Company Limited	Vintage Trains (Charter Passenger Services)
Grand Central Railway Company Limited (North West Services)	Vintage Trains (Freight Services)
Grand Central Railway Company Limited (Charter Passenger Services)	West Coast Railway Company Limited (Charter Passenger Services)
Hanson and Hall Rail Service Solutions Limited	West Coast Railway Company Limited (Freight Services)
Harsco Rail Limited	West Coast Railway Company Limited ("The Jacobite")
Hull Trains Company Limited	West Midlands Trains Limited
Legge Infrastructure Services Limited	XC Trains Limited