

James Osborn
Senior Executive, Licensing
Email StationsandDepots@orr.gov.uk



BY EMAIL ONLY

27 February 2023

Peter Coello
Project Manager
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
40-50 Wellington Street
Leeds
LS1 2DE

Dear Peter,

Cottingley station – West Yorkshire Combined Authority request for ratification of closure

- 1) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Cottingley station. West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) has proposed closing Cottingley station and replacing it with a new station, White Rose station. WYCA has advised the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) that the closure of Cottingley station will happen after (or concurrent with) the opening of White Rose station.
- 2) Under the power granted in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (the Act), ORR requires the operator of Cottingley station to display the ratification notice at the station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.
- 3) Please note that the notice also requires the operator of the stations in the area affected by the closure to display a copy of the closure ratification notice at those stations for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.
- 4) I have, therefore, written separately to Northern Trains Limited concerning the requirement to display the notice at Cottingley and Morley stations. I have also written to Network Rail Infrastructure Limited requiring it to display the notice at Leeds station.
- 5) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to all the parties consulted by WYCA. A copy of the notice will also appear on the ORR website and will be placed on the ORR public register.



- 6) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked that WYCA 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; and
 - d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.
- 7) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We received a letter of support for the proposal from Network Rail and email correspondence from two local councillors re-stating the objections that they had already raised to WYCA regarding the proposal. We did not receive any other representations in response to the publication of the proposal on ORR's website.

Yours sincerely

James Osborn