

Market Study Notice

Market Study into the railway station catering market

The Office of Rail and Road (**ORR**) publishes this market study notice in accordance with section 130A of the Enterprise Act 2002 (**the Act**).

1. ORR is proposing to carry out its functions under section 69(1) of the Railways Act 1993 in relation to the **Railway Station Catering Market** in Great Britain, to consider the extent to which a matter in relation to the supply of those services relating to railways, within the meaning of section 67(3ZA) of the Railways Act 1993, has or may have effects adverse to the interests of consumers, and, to assess the extent to which steps can and should be taken to remedy, mitigate or prevent any such adverse effects (**the market study**).
2. Railway station catering refers to the provision of food and beverages to customers (mainly passengers) by retailers at stations. It is a significant market for passengers, retail catering companies and station facility owners. This market plays an important role for millions of passengers and commuters across the country. The aim of the market study is to scrutinise the market, its structure and dynamic and examine if it is working well. Further details of the market study, including detailed issues on which ORR would welcome responses, are provided in the Statement of Scope document which is annexed to this notice.
3. ORR now invites any persons wishing to make representations on the matter, including on whether ORR should make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act, to do so in writing no later than **7 July 2023**.
4. If ORR proposes to make a market investigation reference, or if a representation (as provided for in section 131A of the Act) has been made to ORR to the effect that such a reference should be made but ORR proposes not to make one, ORR will publish a notice of that proposal and begin the process of consultation under section 131A(2)(b) of the Act no later than **15 December 2023**.

5. Save where paragraph 4 applies, if ORR decides not to make a market investigation reference under section 131 of the Act, ORR will publish notice of that decision no later than **15 December 2023**.
6. ORR will publish its market study report, setting out its findings in relation to the matter specified in this notice and the action (if any) which ORR proposes to take in relation to that matter, no later than **15 June 2024**

16 June 2023

Office of Rail and Road

Notes

- i. Representations should be made in writing and emailed or posted to the address below. Reasoned confidentiality requests for (parts of) the representations should be made at the time of submission.

Email: cateringstudy@orr.gov.uk

- ii. A copy of this notice is placed on the [ORR project page](#).