

Claire Brooks
Access Executive

9 May 2025



Erin Flanagan
Customer Manager LNW Route
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Baskerville House
Centenary Square
Broad Street
Birmingham B1 2ND

Robbie Gilbody
Contracts and Compliance Manager
TransPennine Trains Limited
8th Floor
Bridgewater House
60 Whitworth Street
Manchester M1 6LT

Dear Erin and Robbie,

Approval of the 76th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and TransPennine Trains Limited (trading as Transpennine Express) dated 3 March 2016.

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 9 May 2025 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. This letter explains the reasons for our decision.

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to grant Transpennine Express the amendments necessary to run their summer timetable for 2025. These amendments include additional station calls in table 4.1 these changes are in service groups EA01 and EA07. The other change is the amendment of the Manchester Piccadilly – Scarborough and return service which will now be Manchester Victoria.

Additional station calls in service group EA01

Addition of Eaglescliff to calling pattern Manchester Airport – Saltburn and return Saltburn to Manchester Airport

Addition of Garforth and Howden to calling pattern Liverpool Lime Street – Hull

Addition of Giberdyke to calling pattern Hull to Liverpool Lime Street



Addition of Deighton and Mirfield to calling pattern Huddersfield – York and return York to Huddersfield

Replacement of Manchester Picadilly to Manchester Victoria on calling pattern Manchester Picadilly to Scarborough and return Scarborough to Manchester Picadilly

Additional station calls in service group EA07

Addition of Bolton to calling pattern Edinburgh to Manchester Airport

Addition of Eaglescliff to calling pattern Manchester Airport to Edinburgh

Addition of Bolton to calling pattern Glasgow Central to Manchester Airport

Addition of Eaglescliff to calling pattern Manchester Airport to Glasgow Central

These amendments will commence 18 May 2025 (Subsidiary Change Date) and will cease 14 December 2025 (Principal Change Date) with no presumption of continuation.

Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. Comments were received from Great Western Railway who had no objections, Northern who had no objections, Transport Focus who were happy to accept and West Yorkshire Combined Authority who also had no objections.

ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns, but a query was raised on the changing of Manchester Piccadilly Station to Manchester Victoria and the associated rights. Network Rail replied and clarified the rights usage in table 2.2. We identified some minor drafting issues, and these were resolved when the agreement was formally submitted.

Our duties under section 4 of the Act and our decision

We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement strikes the appropriate balance in discharging our statutory duties under section 4 of the Act; in particular, those relating to protecting the interests of users of railway services (section 4(1)(a)), promoting the use of the railway network for the carriage of passengers (section 4(1)(b)) and enabling persons providing railway services to plan their businesses with a reasonable degree of assurance (section 4(1)(g)).

Conformed copy of the track access agreement



Under clause 18.2.4 of the track access contract, Network Rail is required to produce a conformed copy, within 28 days of any amendment being made, and send copies to ORR and the Train Operator. Please send the conformed copy to me at ORR.

Public register and administration

Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to the Department for Transport and Network Rail's Policy and Access Team. Copies of the approval notice and the agreement will be placed on ORR's public register (website), and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

Claire Brooks