Claire Brooks Access Executive Telephone:

E-mail:

25 September 2025



Mark Garner
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Floor 4B,
George Stephenson House
Toft Green
York YO1 6JT

Louise Mendham
Service Delivery Director
Hull Trains Company Limited
4th Floor, Europa House
184 Ferensway
Hull HU1 3UT

Dear Mark and Louise,

Approval of the 35th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and Hull Trains Company Limited (trading as Hull Trains) dated 17 March 2016.

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 25 September 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 amend Hull Trains Company track access contract with an amendment relating to an addition of a calling stop at Stevenage. This station had been removed from the contract in error and has been added back into the contract until Principle Change Date 2025 via the 34th supplemental agreement. This supplemental agreement will add the Stevenage stop on a permanent basis into the track access contract and will commence from Principle Change Date 2025 and will cease at the end of the contract

Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. Comments were received from Great Western Railway who had no objections and West Yorkshire Combined Authority who had no issues to raise.

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ORR review

Our review of the application raised no [other] operational, performance or economic concerns. 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