

Claire Brooks
Access Executive

9 December 2025



Nicole Ledwith
Franchise and Access Executive
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
1 Puddledock
London
EC4V 3DS

Catherine Rowe
Track Access Manager
GA Trains Limited
11th Floor, One Stratford Place
Montfitchet Road
West Stratford City
London, E20 1EJ

Dear Nicole and Catherine,

Approval of the 103rd supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and GA Trains Limited (trading as Greater Anglia) dated 10 December 2004.

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 9 December 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 Greater Anglia's track access contract with various changes to services groups and calling patterns so that rights align with services in the timetable. These changes will commence at the Principal Change Date in December 2025. The main changes are due to the East Coast Mainline timetable recast, opening of Cambridge South station and changes from contingent to firm for some rights.

Changes to access rights are within service groups EB02 Southend and Southminster, EB03 Great Outer Eastern, EB06 West Anglia Outer and EB07 West Anglia Inner. These are various weekday and weekend service increases, as well as moving contingent rights to firm for Stratford to Bishops Stortford services.

A new station, Cambridge South is due to be opened during the winter timetable period, so this has been added to calling patterns for service group EB06 in readiness.



Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook industry consultation between 3 October and 3 November 2025. Responses were received from Great Western Railway and Transport Focus who both had no objections to the application.

C2c raised a query on the perceived inconsistency between supporting 4 additional Colchester – Liverpool Street weekend services on the GEML line until May 2027 whereas c2c Liverpool Street rights were only approved until Dec 2026.

In the application form for this GA 103rd, Network Rail explained that the approval decisioning applied to the c2c Rail 23rd SA was based on the known need to engage with industry parties regarding potential Train Planning Rule amendments and understanding capacity and performance for all stakeholders from the GTS aspiration to increase their service levels from the COSS. As this service proposal and c2c diverted service operations to Liverpool Street are timetabled on the GE Electric Lines while GA Trains Ltd services are timetabled on the GE Mainlines, the GA Trains Ltd application was progressed due to there being no timetabled service interaction.

Discussions at senior level with both parties were arranged in order to close out the objection. After the discussion was followed up in writing, the c2c objection was withdrawn.

ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns. We identified some minor drafting issues and queries, and these were resolved.

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