

Jonathan Rodgers
Senior Executive



9 December 2025

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Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
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Rob Holder
Network Access Manager
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Milford House
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Dear Jayne and Rob

Approval of the 109th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and First Greater Western Limited (trading as Great Western Railway (GWR)) dated 4 March 2016

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.

Purpose

The purpose of the application was initially to extend a number of contingent, time limited access rights in various locations (Bristol, Swindon, Weston-super-Mare, London Paddington and others) for one timetable period only (until the Subsidiary Change Date in May 2026). It also added Okehampton Interchange as a Regular Calling Pattern in Table 4.1 of Schedule 5.

Once ORR had directed the 201st SA, which covered a number of access rights contained in this application, we asked the parties to remove those rights from this application.

Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation from 23 July to 20 August 2025. Supportive responses were received from Elizabeth Line, South Western Railway, Cross Country and Transport Focus.



ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns. We discussed some drafting concerns we had with the agreement as we felt that it did not align with drafting of other GWR Principal Change Date 2025 applications. This matter was 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)).

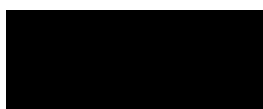
Conformed copy of the track access agreement

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



Jonathan Rodgers