

Louise Beilby
Senior Access Executive



22 December 2025

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Concession Contract Support Manager
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Dear Russell and Joanna

Approval of the 42nd supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Limited and GTS Rail Operations Limited (GTS) dated 21 November 2018

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 19 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 extend the current GTS track access contract from its current expiry date on the Principal Change Date (PCD) in December 2026 to PCD 2029. This amendment also removes a number of unused contingent rights that were dated to start from the Subsidiary Change Date (SCD) in May 2026.

Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation for four weeks from 5 November 2025. Comments in support or raising no objection were received from Great Western Railway, CrossCountry and Transport Focus. c2c raised a query relating to the services into Liverpool Street, to which Network Rail responded to the enquirer's satisfaction.



ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns. There was a minor drafting point which was corrected at formal submission.

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, Rail for London (Infrastructure) Limited 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

Copies of the approval notice and the redacted agreement will be placed on ORR's public register (website) and copies of this letter and the redacted agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

Louise Beilby