## Louise Beilby Access Executive

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11 May 2020

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Dear Jayne and Robert

## Approval of the 58th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and First Greater Western Limited dated 4 March 2016

- 1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 7 May 2020 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.
- 2. The purpose of this agreement is to give First Greater Western a number of new rights between Exeter and Exmouth, Plymouth and London Paddington, and Plymouth and Penzance. The rights are to commence on 17 May 2020 and will expire on the Expiry Date or earlier termination of First Greater Western's track access contract.
- 3. Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. Comments were received from Transport Focus, South Western Railways, and Cross Country Trains; all queries that were raised were resolved to the consultees' satisfaction.
- 4. Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns.

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- 9. We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement is consistent with our 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)).
- 10. 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.
- 11. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport. 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. I am also copying this letter without enclosures to Peter Craig at Network Rail.

Yours sincerely

Louise Beilby