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30 March 2020

Rebecca Mordey Franchise and Access Manager Network Rail Infrastructure Limited 1 Eversholt Street London NW1 2DN Tom Causebrook Track Access Contract Manager Govia Thameslink Railway Limited 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Monument Place 24 Monument Place London EC3R 8AJ

Dear Rebecca and Tom

## Thirty seventh supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Govia Thameslink Railway Limited (GTR)

1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 27 March 2020 under Section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act).

2. The purpose of the agreement is to add an additional Saturday Three Bridges to Cambridge service, effective from Subsidiary Change Date (SCD) 2020 to SCD 2022. This service was intended to be part of the thirty sixth Supplemental Agreement which contained GTR's other service changes for SCD 2020 and ORR approved on 2 March 2020. However, the parties needed to have further discussions before they could reach agreement.

3. There were two responses to the industry consultation. Transport Focus supported the application. Cross Country were concerned about the performance impact of the new service but, following correspondence with Network Rail, withdrew its concerns.

4. We did not have any concerns about this application.

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5. In considering the agreement and in reaching our decision, we have had to weigh and strike the appropriate balance in discharging our statutory duties under section 4 of the Act. We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement is consistent with our section 4 duties, 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)).

6. 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. ORR's copy should be sent for my attention.

7. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport and Peter Craig at Network Rail. Copies of the approval notice and the agreement will be placed on ORR's public register and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

**Jonathan Rodgers**