

John Larkinson
Chief Executive



Dyan Crowther
Chief Executive
High Speed 1 Ltd
By email only

5 June 2020

Dear Dyan,

Holding High Speed 1 Ltd to account during the coronavirus pandemic

Thank you again for all that you and everyone at High Speed 1 Ltd (HS1 Ltd) and Network Rail (High Speed) are doing during this time of unprecedented public health challenge. Our teams have recently worked together to ensure that we support the HS1 network during this period of uncertainty, specifically on adapting the charging framework to alleviate the impacts of the current pandemic on train operators.

It remains as important as ever that HS1 Ltd delivers efficiently and effectively and that ORR provides independent scrutiny for train operators, passengers, freight customers and funders. As such, I wanted to write to you to clarify our approach during this time.

I have not made any assumptions about the long-term impacts of the pandemic on factors such as travel demand or government policy, as these will only become clearer over time. In the meantime, ORR will continue to hold HS1 Ltd to account against the periodic review 2019 final determination. We have commenced monitoring arrangements and our teams will be meeting quarterly. This should continue but also cover any specific effects of the pandemic on changes to the final Five Year Asset Management Statement (5YAMS). We will then deal with any issues as they arise, taking a pragmatic approach.

I have copied this letter to the Department for Transport.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Larkinson', written in a cursive style.

John Larkinson
Chief Executive