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23 October 2015

Clare.Waller@networkrail.co.uk

Dear Ms Waller,

Rochester station – Department for Transport request for ratification of closure

- 1) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Rochester station. Under the power granted in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (the Act), the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) **requires you to display the ratification notice at Rochester station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.**
- 2) Please note that the notice also requires the operator of the stations in the area affected by the closure – Chatham, Ebbsfleet International, Faversham, London St Pancras International, Stratford International and Strood stations – to display a copy of the closure ratification notice at those stations for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.
- 3) Network Rail Limited as operator of London St Pancras International and Stratford International stations is required to display the notice at these stations
- 4) I have written separately to London & South Eastern Railway Limited concerning the requirement to display the notice at Chatham, Ebbsfleet International, Faversham and Strood stations.
- 5) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to the Department for Transport, the operator of the other stations and to all the parties consulted by the Department for Transport. A copy of the notice will also appear on the ORR website and will be placed on the ORR public register.
- 6) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked that the Department for Transport has:
 - a) provided ORR with the appropriate documentation;



b) followed the consultation requirements laid down in the Act, and by the Railways Closure Guidance issued by the Secretary of State on 18 October 2006;

c) reasonably applied the criteria for appraising such proposals, as laid out in the Railways Closure Guidance; and

d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.

7) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We did not receive any representations in relation to the request for ratification.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Scarff', is written over a long horizontal line that extends to the right.

Michael Scarff