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1 May 2018

Nicole Ledwith
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
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London
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Catherine Rowe
Track Access Manager
Abellio East Anglia Limited
One Stratford Place, 11th Floor
1 Montfichet Road
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Dear Nicole and Catherine

Approval of the Sixty-Fifth supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and Abellio East Anglia Limited (jointly, “the parties”)

1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 26 April 2018 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. The purpose of this letter is to set out the reasons for our decision.
2. This agreement makes changes to table 2.1 in Schedule 5 of the parties track access contract to reflect the introduction of one late night Cambridge-Bishops Stortford service on Friday and Saturday from the May 2018 timetable change. Customer demand has driven the introduction of these services and to create a connection opportunity with existing services at Bishop Stortford which will allow for an additional onward journey option to Liverpool Street.
3. Network Rail undertook the normal industry consultation with advice received from HS2 Ltd and Govia Thameslink Railway Ltd and a supportive comment from Transport Focus.
4. Our review identified no issues and we are satisfied that approval is in accordance with our statutory duties under Section 4 of the Railways Act 1993. We noted some minor drafting issues and highlighted these to the parties with our suggestions. The parties have accepted our comments and amended the agreement for the formal submission.

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. Please send the conformed copy to me at ORR.

7. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport and to Peter Craig at Network Rail. 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Albon', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Albon