

**Louise Beilby**  
Access Executive  
Telephone: 0207 282 2076  
E-mail: [louise.beilby@orr.gov.uk](mailto:louise.beilby@orr.gov.uk)



7 May 2020

Jayne Tipton  
Customer Manager  
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd  
Western House  
1 Holbrook Way  
Swindon  
SN1 1BD

Robert Holder  
Network Access Manager  
First Greater Western Ltd  
Milford House  
1 Milford Street  
Swindon  
SN1 1HL

Dear Jayne and Robert

**Approval of the 55th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and First Greater Western Limited dated 4 March 2016**

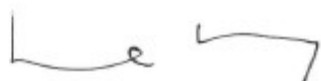
1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 7 May 2020 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. This letter explains the reasons for our decision.
2. The purpose of this agreement is to make firm the contingent rights that GWR obtained under General Approval through the 54th SA. This increased the quantum of some of the services in Schedule 5, Table 2.1 for service groups EF04, EF07, and EF10. The rights are to commence on 11 May 2020 and will expire on the Expiry Date or earlier termination of GWR's track access contract.
3. Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. No objections were raised and there are no outstanding unresolved queries from any of the consulted parties.
4. Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns.

5. 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. 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Louise', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Louise Beilby**