



OFFICE OF RAIL AND ROAD

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22 February 2018

Andriana Shiakallis
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Cotton Centre
Tooley Street
London Bridge
SE1 2QG

Tom Causebrook
Access Contract Manager
Govia Thameslink Railway Limited
1st and 2nd Floor Monument Place
24 Monument Place
London
EC3R 8AJ

Dear Andriana and Tom

Eighteenth 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 22 February 2018.
2. The purpose of this agreement is to obtain contingent access rights allowing GTR to operate weekday preview passenger train services ahead of the May Timetable change. The services will use the new Canal Tunnel infrastructure between St Pancras and London Bridge. Two services a day will run from Cambridge to Brighton and back and two services a day will run from Peterborough to Horsham and back. Both services will be weekdays only.
3. As no other operator will be using the Canal Tunnels and the full May 2018 access rights application (which will include firm rights for these services) is currently in consultation, we advised the parties that a consultation was not necessary for this application.

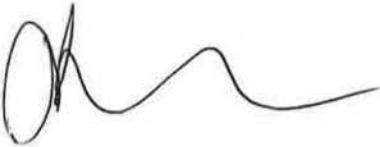
4. Our own review did not identify any issues and we are satisfied that approval is in accordance with our statutory duties under section 4 of the Railways Act 1993. We made some comments regarding the drafting of the agreement and these were taken into account in the formal submission.

3. 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)).

4. 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.

5. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jonathan Rodgers', written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Rodgers