

Michael Albon
Executive, Access & Licensing
Telephone: 0207 282 3660
E-mail: michael.albon@orr.gsi.gov.uk



9 May 2018

Carew Satchwell
Route Contract Manager (LNW)
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Baskerville House
Centenary Square
Broad Street
Birmingham
B1 2ND

Darren Horley
Commercial Operations Manager
West Coast Trains Limited
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4DN

Dear Carew and Darren

Twenty-Second supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and West Coast Trains Limited (Virgin Trains)

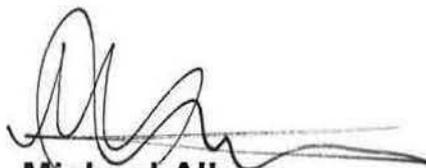
1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 9 May 2018 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. The purpose of this letter is to set out the reasons for our decision.
2. This agreement provides Virgin Trains with an additional service from Crewe to Manchester Piccadilly Monday-Friday from the May 2018 Timetable Change.
3. Network Rail undertook the normal industry consultation ending on 19 February 2018. Supportive responses were received from Transport Focus, First Greater Western Limited and the Welsh Government. Queries were raised by Transport for Greater Manchester and Arriva Rail North Limited which have been responded to by Virgin Trains to allay their concerns. No further concerns were raised.
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.
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.

Yours sincerely

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

Michael Albon