

## NOTIFICATION TO THE OFFICE OF RAIL AND ROAD OF A PROPOSED OPEN ACCESS SERVICE THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE ECONOMIC EQUILIBRIUM TEST

Please use this form to notify the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) of an open access service that may be subject to the Economic Equilibrium Test.

For further information, please see our published [Guidance on the Economic Equilibrium Test](#).

Information submitted in this form regarding the planned operation of the service should cover at least the first three years and, as far as possible, the first five years of operation.

Submitted forms will be published on the ORR website and notified to the relevant parties.

If this form is submitted with incomplete information, ORR will inform the applicant that incomplete requests will not be considered and will give the applicant the possibility to complete its request within ten working days.

This form does not replace our usual access application process, which should be followed in the usual manner as set out in our published [guidance](#).

ORR may request additional information in order to undertake the Economic Equilibrium Test.

### **What to send:**

Please supply this form by e-mail, **in plain Microsoft Word or Open Document Text format** (i.e. excluding any macros, auto-para or page numbering, or other auto-formatting).

### **Where to send it:**

Email: [track.access@orr.gov.uk](mailto:track.access@orr.gov.uk)

You should also send a completed copy of this notification form to the relevant infrastructure manager.

**Applicant details:**

**Company:** Virgin Trains Ltd  
**Contact individual:** Phillip Whittingham  
**Job title:** Director  
**Address:**  
The Battleship Building,  
179 Harrow Road,  
London,  
W2 6NB  
(C.no 2448617)  
**Telephone number:** [redacted]  
**E-mail address:** [redacted]

Date of Form OA submission to ORR:	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Planned start date of services:	SCD May 2021

Does the applicant:

- (a) hold a valid train operating licence under section 8 of the Railways Act 1993 or an exemption under section 7, or under The Railway (Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2005, **and**
- (b) hold a valid safety certificate under the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006.

If the answer to (a) **or** (b) is no, please state the point reached in obtaining a licence, exemption and/or safety certificate.

Virgin Trains Ltd has access to experienced railway operations and safety advisors. The application for the operating licence and safety certificate will be undertaken alongside this application for access.

**Summary of the proposed service:**

*Please include the detailed route of the proposed service, indicating departure and destination stations and all intermediate stops.*

London Euston – Nuneaton – Tamworth – Lichfield Trent Valley - Liverpool South Parkway – Liverpool Lime Street

Liverpool Lime Street – Liverpool South Parkway – Lichfield Trent Valley – Tamworth – Nuneaton - London Euston

*Please set out the indicative timings and frequency of the proposed service, including proposed departure and arrival times. This information may be submitted in an annex if preferred.*

“The proposed service pattern between London Euston and Liverpool Lime Street is as follows (subject to timetable development & path validation with Network Rail):

Down Direction - 13 trains (forming an hourly service)

First service 06:36 from London Euston, last service from London Euston 21:36. Our aspiration is for a sub-2h 30m journey time, including station calls. No services from London Euston in the evening peak period.

Up Direction – 11 trains (forming an hourly service)

First service 08:13 from Liverpool Lime Street, last service from Liverpool Lime Street 20:13. Our aspiration is for a sub-2h 30m journey time, including station calls.”

*Please set out indicative information about the intended rolling stock.*

Virgin Trains Ltd is in discussions with various rolling stock leasing agents regarding the use of optimal rolling stock with the capacity and capability (e.g.125mph operations) required to operate services on the West Coast Main-line and its periphery routes.