

**Jonathan Rodgers**  
Senior Executive  
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8 December 2022

Rebecca Mordey  
Franchise and Access Manager  
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd  
1 Puddledock  
London  
EC4V 3DS

Darren Gay  
Track Access Contract Manager  
Govia Thameslink Railway Ltd  
1st & 2nd Floor, Monument Place  
24 Monument Place  
London  
EC3R 8AJ

Dear Rebecca and Darren

**Approval of the 49th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Govia Thameslink Railway Limited dated 2 March 2016**

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 6 December 2022 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.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agreement is to make a number of changes to service patterns applicable to the December 2022 timetable change. These include additional calls on some lines and maintaining shortened routes in place since the pandemic.

**Industry consultation**

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation from 5 October to 5 November 2022. No concerns or objections were raised.

**ORR review**

ORR has reviewed this application and had no concerns.



## **Our duties under section 4 of the Act and our decision**

We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement strikes the appropriate balance in discharging our statutory duties under section 4 of the Act; 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)).

## **Conformed copy of the track access agreement**

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.

## **Public register and administration**

Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to the Department for Transport and Network Rail's Policy and Access Team. 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 'Jonathan Rodgers', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Jonathan Rodgers**