

**Claire Brooks**  
Access Executive



1 December 2023

Alex Aitken  
Customer Relations Executive  
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd  
Hawker House  
5-6 Napier Road  
Reading  
RG1 8BW

Emma Maynard  
Contract Manager  
MTR Corporation (Crossrail) Ltd  
63 St Mary Axe  
London  
EC3A 8NH

Dear Alex and Emma,

**Approval of the 28<sup>th</sup> supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and MTR Corporation (Crossrail) Limited dated 21 November 2018.**

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 1 December 2023 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 amend table 2.1, table 2.2 and table 4.1 of Schedule 5 of Crossrail's TAC to include additional rights for two services and an additional stop to a calling pattern to alleviate performance and safety issues. This entails services between Stratford to Pudding Mill Lane, Westbourne Park to Maidenhead and Reading to Westbourne Park. This amendment will become effective from December 2023.

**Industry consultation**

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. No concerns were raised.

**ORR review**

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic 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

*C Brooks*

**Claire Brooks**