

**Claire Brooks**

**Access Executive**

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7 April 2025

Sid Ali  
Franchise and Access Manager  
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited  
1 Puddle Dock  
Queen Victoria Street  
London SE1

Susan Ellis  
Track Access and HS1 Contracts Manager  
SE Trains Limited  
4 More, London Riverside  
London SE1 2AU

Dear Sid and Susan,

**Approval of the 121st supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and SE Trains Limited (trading as Southeastern) dated 6 December 2007.**

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 3 April 2025 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 grant Southeastern the additional rights necessary to run their summer timetable for 2025. These services will commence on 18 May and will cease at the end of the current contract. This agreement includes:

- The conversion of Empty Coaching Stock to passenger services on the Maidstone East line (service groups HU01/HU04), with 2 weekday services each way from Maidstone East to London Charing Cross extended to now start from Ashford International.
- Similar conversion of Empty Coaching Stock to passenger services on Saturdays on the Maidstone East line (service groups HU01/HU04), with 3 Saturday services each way from Maidstone East to London Charing Cross extended to now start from Ashford International.

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- Extension of one weekday peak London Cannon Street to Strood via Bexleyheath service to Rochester (service group HU05), enabling an empty coaching stock run to Gillingham Depot and reducing empty coaching mileage.

### **Industry consultation**

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. Comments were received from Great Western Railway who had no objection and Transport Focus who were happy to accept.

### **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



**Claire Brooks**