



Rachel Gilliland
Customer Relationship Executive
Network Rail
4th Floor, Kings Place
York Way
London
N1 9AG

Date: 24th January 2014

.....
Dear Rachel

Alliance Rail (GNER) Section 17 Application

Thank you for the consulting with us on the proposed application for track access rights for Great North Eastern Railway under Section 17 of the Railways Act:

Nexus is broadly supportive of the proposed services, which would deliver shorter end-to-end journey times between Tyne & Wear and both Edinburgh and London. However, concerns remain over the availability of sufficient paths on the East Coast Mainline to accommodate both this and future proposals and would welcome clarity in this regard from the applicant and Network Rail.

Nexus would also encourage Network Rail to develop a timetable delivering attractive local connections to this service in the event that track access rights are granted.

The applicant should be aware that Nexus has recently offered full support to Newcastle International Airport's Masterplan 2030 which forecasts significant growth in passenger numbers during the period of the proposed track access rights.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

James Farnell-Smith – Head of Heavy Rail

Copy: Jonathan Cooper, Alliance Rail