



East Coast Main Line Company Limited
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virgintrainseastcoast.com

David Young
Interim Director General
South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive
10 Broad Street West
Sheffield
S1 2BQ

03 July 2015

Dear David,

RE: Virgin Trains East Coast (VTEC) Section 17 Application

Thank you for your letter dated 07 April. The purpose of this letter is to respond to your comments. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

You are correct that from May 2020, the VTEC service between Doncaster, Wakefield and Leeds is reduced to hourly as the second fast London <> Leeds service calls at Peterborough vice Doncaster, providing connectivity to East Anglia. It has been necessary to omit stops in order to significantly improve end to end journey times between London and Leeds. We have also proposed to operate a two hourly service between London and Harrogate (via Leeds). At the time of the bid, the intention was for this service to run via Hambleton but we are working with Network Rail on an alternative solution to route the service via Wakefield. The actual stopping pattern will depend on capacity of the line and capacity at Leeds station.

We are fully aware of the importance both SYPTe and WYCA attach to a twice hourly Doncaster - Wakefield Westgate - Leeds service and will work with both organisations to optimise the service on this important corridor.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Dawson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Phil Dawson
Regulation & Track Access Manager

cc Mark Garner, Network Rail
David Reed, ORR