

Louise Beilby
Senior Access Executive



16 February 2024

Devon Wall
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Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
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M1 2NF

Bevis Thomas
Head of Train Planning
The Chiltern Railway Company Ltd
Banbury Integrated Control Centre
Higham Way
Banbury
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Dear Devon and Bevis

Approval of the 8th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and the Chiltern Railway Company Limited (trading as Chiltern Railways (Chiltern)) dated 7 October 2022

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 16 February 2024 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 Chiltern the rights necessary to operate its proposed June 2024 timetable. This entails the addition of two firm rights in Table 2.1 of Schedule 5 between Princes Risborough and Marylebone and the extension of the Saturday Amersham to Aylesbury service to Aylesbury Vale Parkway. There are also some amendments to regular calling patterns in Table 4.1 of Schedule 5. The rights are to commence on the Subsidiary Change Date in June 2024 and will expire on the Expiry Date or earlier termination of Chiltern's track access contract.



Industry consultation

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

ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns. We identified some minor drafting issues and these were resolved when the agreement was formally submitted.

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

Louise Beilby