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15 October 2015

**To all parties consulted on the closure of Rochester station.**

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Rochester station – Department for Transport request for ratification of closure**

- 1) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Rochester station. Under its powers in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (the Act), The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) requires the operators of Rochester, Chatham, Ebbsfleet International, Faversham, London St Pancras International, Stratford International and Strood stations to display the notice at the station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of this notice.
- 2) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to the operators of the stations and to all the parties consulted by the Department for Transport. A copy of the notice will also appear on ORR's website and will be placed on ORR's public register.
- 3) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked and confirms that DfT has:
  - a) provided ORR with the appropriate documentation;
  - b) followed the consultation requirements laid down in the Act, and by the Railways Closure Guidance issued by the Secretary of State on 18 October 2006;
  - c) reasonably applied the criteria for appraising such proposals, as laid out in the Railways Closure Guidance; and
  - d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.



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4) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We did not receive any representations in relation to the request for ratification. .

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Scarff", is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends to the right.

**Michael Scarff**