



Department for Transport

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Dear Joanna,

Crossrail services to Heathrow: Application to the Office of Rail and Road

You will be aware that Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) undertook a rail industry consultation in July 2015 as part of its commitment to comply with the Railways Infrastructure (Access and Management) Regulations 2005 (the "2005 Regulations").

Crossrail services from Paddington to Heathrow are due to commence in May 2018. In order for this to happen, appropriate terms of access need to be agreed sufficiently in advance to allow, amongst other things, the usual industry timetabling process to take place.

In the view of the Crossrail Sponsors, to date, the contractual documentation provided by HAL to allow the operation of Crossrail trains on its rail infrastructure does not comply with the 2005 Regulations. Regrettably, this is despite the considerable number of comments provided to HAL's advisers over the past year by the Crossrail Sponsors.

In any event, and irrespective of the question of compliance with 2005 Regulations, we also have significant concerns with many aspects of the terms proposed by HAL for access to the Heathrow rail infrastructure. Our view remains that the terms of access offered by HAL are not fit for purpose and this now poses a significant risk to our plans for the start of Crossrail services to Heathrow Airport in 2018.

Discussions with HAL's advisers ceased some months ago and as a result the Crossrail Sponsors consider that they have been left with no alternative but to lodge an application under the 2005 Regulations with the ORR.

I am therefore writing to you to provide the Department for Transport's support to Transport for London's applications made under Regulations 29 and 30 of the 2005 Regulations.

Officials in my team would be happy to meet with your colleagues or provide any further information you require in support of this application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Lodge', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Lodge
Director, Major Projects, Department for Transport