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01 February 2022

Gary Davies-Knight
Track Access Manager
Seilwaith Amey Cymru / Amey Infrastructure
Wales Limited
Transport For Wales CVL Infrastructure
Depot Ty Trafnidiaeth
Treforest Industrial Estate, Gwent Road
Pontypridd, United Kingdom, CF37 5UT

Quentin Hedderly
Network Capacity Advisor
Rail Express Systems Limited
Lakeside Business Park, Carolina Way
Doncaster DN4 5PN

Dear Gary and Quentin,

Directions in respect of a track access contract between Seilwaith Amey Cymru / Amey Infrastructure Wales Limited and Rail Express Systems Limited

We have today issued directions under section 18 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act) to Seilwaith Amey Cymru / Amey Infrastructure Wales Limited (AIW) to enter into a track access contract (TAC) with Rail Express Systems Limited (RES) (jointly the parties). The application was submitted to the ORR by AIW on 26 January 2022. This letter explains the reasons for our decision.

Purpose

The purpose of this contract is to provide RES the ability to provide charter services on the Core Valley Lines network (CVL). RES already holds a charter contract to operate services on the Network Rail network. The contract will commence on 1 February 2022 and will expire on 31 December 2024.

Industry consultation

AIW undertook the usual industry consultation in January 2022. No issues were raised by respondents.



ORR review

Our review of the application raised no operational, performance or economic concerns.

Our duties under Section 4 and our decision

We have concluded that approval of this 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)).

Public register and administration

A copy of the Directions and the signed contract, with necessary redactions, will be placed on our public register. Copies of this letter and the redacted contract will also be placed on the ORR website.

Once the agreement is signed, in accordance with Section 72(5) of the Act, you must send a copy to ORR within 14 days.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Reed', is written over a light grey circular stamp.

David Reed