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OFFICE OF **RAIL REGULATION**

To: See distribution list

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Dear Colleague

Alliancing

Network Rail has announced its plans to form alliances with several train operating companies and has written to stakeholders on its proposals to enter into an arrangement with Stagecoach South West Trains.

I am writing to give our views on alliancing, to provide greater certainty for Network Rail, SSWT and other operators in taking their plans forward, and to provide assurance to other operators and stakeholders outside an alliance.

We support the concept of alliances. We welcome their potential to add value in the rail sector, delivering benefits not only for the parties involved but also for rail users and taxpayers. But we will ensure that we provide safeguards for those outside alliances.

We welcome comments on this statement. Please email us at networkregulation.enquiries@orr.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Richard Price'.

Richard Price



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Association of Train Operating Companies
Charter train operators
Department for Transport
Freight train operators
Local Authorities
London TravelWatch
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Passenger Focus
Passenger train operators
Passenger Transport Executives
Rail Delivery Group
Railway Safety and Standards Board
Railway suppliers
Rolling Stock Operating Companies
Trade Unions
Transport for London
Transport Scotland