

**Jonathan Rodgers**  
Senior Executive, Access & Licensing  
Telephone: 0207 282 3775  
E-mail: [jonathan.rodgers@orr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.rodgers@orr.gsi.gov.uk)



4 May 2017

Julia Stanyard  
Customer Manager (Chiltern Railways)  
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited  
Floor 1, Baskerville House  
Centenary Square  
Birmingham  
B1 2ND

Bevis Thomas  
Head of Train Planning  
The Chiltern Railway Company Limited  
Banbury Integrated Control Centre  
Higham Way (off Merton Street)  
Banbury  
Oxon  
OX16 4RN

Dear Julia and Bevis

**Approval of the one hundred and twenty third supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and The Chiltern Railway Company Limited**

1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 4 May 2017 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. The purpose of this letter is to set out the reasons for our decision.
2. The purpose of this agreement is to make a number of changes to the May timetable, as follows:
  - Amendments to quantum rights for a number of services in the HO02, HO03 and HO04 service groups.
  - Amendments to calling patterns, targeted specific services that have been identified as causing delays.
  - Removal of firm rights to operate Class 121 vehicles.
  - An additional later Saturday service from Oxford to Bicester Village.
3. Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation from 10 March to 7 April 2017. Transport Focus replied and said they supported the application. No concerns or objections were raised.

4. We reviewed the application and had no operational, performance or economic concerns.
5. In considering the agreement and in reaching our decision, we have had to weigh and strike the appropriate balance in discharging our statutory duties under section 4 of the Act. We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement is consistent with our section 4 duties, 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)).
6. 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.
7. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport. Copies of the approval notice and the agreement will be placed on ORR's public register and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website. I am also copying this letter without enclosures to Peter Craig at Network Rail.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Rodgers', written in a cursive style.

**Jonathan Rodgers**