## Michael Albon Executive, Access & Licensing

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23 January 2019

Alistair Rusholme Customer Manager Network Rail Infrastructure Limited One Stratford Place, 12th Floor 1 Montfichet Road London E20 1EJ Catherine Rowe
Track Access Manager
Abellio East Anglia Limited
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Dear Alistair and Catherine

## Approval of the sixty-sixth supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Abellio East Anglia Limited

- 1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 22 January 2019 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 extend the existing rights between Ipswich and Peterborough, currently due to expire at Subsidiary Change Date 2019 to Principal Change Date 2019.
- 3. Network Rail undertook the normal industry consultation with no objections received.
- 4. Our review identified no issues and we are satisfied that approval is in accordance with our Statutory Duties under Section 4 of the Railways Act 1993. We noted a minor drafting issue with the agreement and highlighted this to the parties with our recommended suggestion. The parties have amended the agreement accordingly for the formal submission.
- 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

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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 and to Peter Craig at Network Rail. Copies of the approval notice and the agreement will be placed on ORR's public register (website) and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

**Michael Albon**