

Michael Albon
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Andriana Shiakallis
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
London Cottons Centre
Cottons Lane
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Tom Causebrook
Access Contracts Manager
Govia Thameslink Railway Limited
2nd Floor, Monument Place
24 Monument Street
London
EC3R 8AJ

Dear Andriana and Tom

Notice of Consent to Relevant Schedule 8 Modifications agreed between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Govia Thameslink Railway Limited

1. The Office of Rail and Road (ORR) has issued a notice of consent in respect of the proposed Relevant Schedule 8 Modifications submitted to this office on 3 June 2016 amending the track access contract (TAC) dated 2 March 2016 between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and Govia Thameslink Railway Limited (GTR), (jointly "the parties").
2. The purpose of this consent is to align the changes made in Schedule 8 for GTR's current TAC to its directed TAC due to start at the principal change date December 2016.
3. This originates from the Southern merger into the existing GTR Franchise in July 2015 which created implications on the Schedule 8 performance regime, changing the level of TOC-on-Self Delays and TOC-on-TOC delays.
4. The consent for the Schedule 8 in the current TAC was approved on 23 March. GTR's new contract was required to be submitted for the Priority Date (4 March) and therefore did not contain the finalised rates in Schedule 8.



5. There is no requirement for industry consultation in this matter as it does not affect any other train operating company.

6. We reviewed the application and were content with the proposal. There were no further issues.

7. In considering the proposed modifications 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 consenting to these modifications is consistent with our section 4 duties, in particular those relating to promoting efficiency and economy on the part of persons providing railway services (section 4(1)(c)).

8. Please find enclosed a copy of the notice of consent. Copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at the Department for Transport. 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 'Michael Albon', is written over a horizontal line.

Michael Albon