

Claire Brooks

Access Executive

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7 April 2025

Sid Ali
Franchise and Access Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
1 Puddle Dock
Queen Victoria Street
London SE1 0NS

Susan Ellis
Track Access & HS1 Contracts Manager
SE Trains Limited
4 More, London Riverside
London SE1 2AU

Dear Sid and Susan,

Approval of the 118th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and SE Trains Limited (trading as Southeastern) dated 6 December 2007

We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 3 April 2025 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. This letter explains the reasons for our decision.

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to grant Southeastern the changes necessary to run their summer timetable for 2025. The rights shall commence on 18 May 2025 and will cease on the 31 August 2025 (for additional services running between London Cannon Street and Ramsgate during the summer school holidays) and 7 September 2025 for other services.

This agreement includes a reduction of 3 firm rights each way within table 2.1 for service group HU01/HU04 on Saturdays between London Victoria and Dover Priory. This is to enable this service to be diverted and run to Ramsgate, until 8 September 2025 where this service will revert to finish at Dover Priory.

It also includes additional contingent rights within table 2.2 for the below service groups:

- HU01/HU04 London Victoria to Ramsgate increased by 3 each way on Saturdays and 4 each way on Sundays until 7 September 2025.

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- HU01/HU04 Faversham to Dover Priory increased by 3 each way on Saturdays until 7 September 2025, to connect with the extended London Victoria to Dover Priory service at Faversham.
- HU02/HU05 London Cannon Street to Ramsgate increased by 1 each way on weekdays and 2 each way on Saturdays. The weekday services will run between 20 July and 31 August, during the school summer holidays. The Saturday services will run from the timetable change until 7 September 2025.

Industry consultation

Network Rail undertook the usual industry consultation. Comments were received from Great Western Railway who had no objection and Transport Focus who were happy to accept.

ORR review

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

Our duties under section 4 of the Act and our decision

We have concluded that approval of this supplemental 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)).

Conformed copy of the track access agreement

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.



Public register and administration

Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to the Department for Transport and Network Rail's Policy and Access Team. 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

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Claire Brooks