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Your reference: RFTB/020/001/025/jfk

Simon Feast
Fares & Passenger Benefits Manager
Rail Executive
Department for Transport
Zone 4/18, Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Dear Mr Feast,

Rochester station – Department for Transport request for ratification of closure

- 1) I am writing further to your letter of 1 September 2015 requesting ratification of the proposal to close Rochester station.
- 2) Please find enclosed a notice ratifying the closure of Rochester station. The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR), under the power granted in s.32(9)(b) of the Railways Act 2005 (the Act), requires Network Rail Limited to display the ratification notice at Rochester station for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice.
- 3) The notice also requires the operator of the stations in the area affected by the closure – Chatham, Ebbsfleet International, Faversham, London St Pancras International, Stratford International and Strood stations – to display a copy of the closure ratification notice at those stations for a period of 4 weeks following the date of the notice. I have written to both Network Rail Limited and London & South Eastern Railway Limited requiring this requirement.
- 4) I will today send a copy of the closure ratification notice to the Network Rail Limited, the operator of the other stations and to all the parties consulted by the Department for Transport. A copy of the notice will also appear on ORR's website and will be placed on ORR's public register.
- 5) In deciding whether to ratify this proposed closure, ORR has checked and confirms that the Department of Transport has:



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- a) provided ORR with the appropriate documentation;
 - b) followed the consultation requirements laid down in the Act, and by the Railways Closure Guidance issued by the Secretary of State on 18 October 2006;
 - c) reasonably applied the criteria for appraising such proposals, as laid out in the Railways Closure Guidance; and
 - d) concluded that the proposal represents good value for money, and that this conclusion is reasonable.
- 6) During the process of considering ratification, the proposal was posted on the ORR website. We did not receive any representations in relation to the request for ratification.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Scarff

