

# Application to the Office of Rail and Road for approval of a passenger framework agreement or an amendment to an existing framework agreement under The Railways (Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2016

## 1. Introduction

Please use this form to apply to the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) for:

- approval under The Railways (Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2016 ("the Regulations") for a new framework agreement; and
- approval under the Regulations for amendments to an existing framework agreement.

The Regulations provide for ORR to approve framework agreements between an applicant, and the infrastructure manager, which in the case of the HS1 network ("HS1") is HS1 Limited. This form should be completed up to section 6.3 before carrying out a pre-application consultation to inform potentially affected parties of the proposed contract. Following this consultation, the remainder should be completed before applying to ORR under the Regulations.

This form sets out ORR's standard information requirements for considering applications. It cross-refers throughout to our HS1 criteria and procedures ("C&Ps"), which applicants are strongly advised to read and take advice on if necessary. The C&Ps explain the process and timing for our consideration of access applications and discuss the issues we will need to consider. Applicants should use the published template framework agreement as their starting point when drafting the contract they would like.

ORR is happy to discuss prospective applications. Please contact us [here](#).

A copy of this form, and of HS1 Limited's template framework agreement, can be accessed electronically and downloaded via the [ORR website](#).

## 2. The application

### 2.1 Title of proposed contract:

Eurostar International Limited (EIL) Framework Track Access Agreement 2026

### 2.2 Contact details (*Company and named individual for queries*):

<u>HS1 Limited t/a London St. Pancras Highspeed</u>	<u>Applicant</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**2.3 Licence and railway safety certificate:** please state whether the applicant intends to operate the services itself or have them operated on its behalf

Does the proposed operator of the services (a) hold a valid European licence and Statement of National Regulatory Provisions for operating the proposed services in Great Britain under the Railway (Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2005, and (b) have a valid safety certificate under the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006. If the answer to (a) or (b) is no, please state the point which the proposed operator has reached in obtaining a licence, exemption and/or safety certificate.

EIL holds a valid European licence and Statement of National Regulatory Provisions for operating the proposed services in Great Britain under the Railway (Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2005, and a valid safety certificate under the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006.

EIL will be operating the services itself.

### 3. The proposed contract or amendment

**3.1 Executive summary:** please provide an executive summary of the proposed contract or amendment. This should cover the services, the commercial terms, and the reasons for making the application in the terms proposed. The summary in this section should also explain (here or by cross-reference to the answers in the sections below):

- where there is an existing agreement in respect of the services in question, any differences between the existing agreement and the proposed contract (e.g. calling patterns, frequency, routes, rolling-stock, commercial terms etc); **C&Ps para: 3.10**
- the commencement and end dates for the proposal, and for new agreements or extensions to existing agreements, provide justification for the proposed length of the application, where contracts would be for longer than five years, with reference to the Regulations **C&Ps para: 3.40**; and
- any material safety risks that have been identified arising from the proposed contract or amendment and how these will be controlled (by reference to the provisions of the relevant safety authorisation and the train operator's safety certificate). **C&Ps para: 3.6-3.8**

Framework Track Access Agreements (FTAAs) are important contracts that contain, amongst other requirements, indemnity clauses that protect London St. Pancras Highspeed and the operators in the event of accidents on the network.

This is a new FTAA between Eurostar International Limited (EIL) and London St. Pancras Highspeed (LSPH). It will come into force on 17 February 2026 once EIL's current FTAA (11<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Agreement to the 2009 FTAA) expires on 16 February 2026. The parties have agreed to an end date of 16 August 2029 – this aligns with the typical 5-year period granted for FTAAs on HS1, after accounting for the three six-monthly extensions of EIL's current FTAA since August 2024.

While this is a new FTAA, the terms are largely the same as EIL's current FTAA. EIL has requested a new FTAA to allow EIL to terminate Ebbsfleet Station Access Agreement as EIL will not call at Ebbsfleet station for the foreseeable future.

The changes between the 11<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Agreement to the 2009 FTAA and the 2026 FTAA are as follows:

- Recitals B and C: These have been updated to reflect a new FTAA has been put in place.
- Schedule 1, para 4 and 5, Commencement Date and Expiry Date: Dates reflect the duration of the new agreement.
- Schedule 3, para 1, Collateral Agreements: Removed reference to access agreement for Ebbsfleet International Station.
- Schedule 4, Part 3: Table for fixed cost wash up amounts removed as the fixed cost wash up was not implemented in the PAT.

- Schedule 5, Table 2.1 Train Slots has been amended for London-Amsterdam and London-Brussels paths and to reflect the new contract term (See section 4.1).
- Schedule 5, para 5.1 and 5.2, Turnaround times: amended to be consistent with the recent change in the Timetable Planning Rules for Kent and HS1 Area.
- Schedule 5, para 5.4, Station Calls: removed right to call at Ebbsfleet International.

Please note that there is an increase in the firm rights from the current FTAA in Table 2.1. This reflects (i) the conversion of London-Amsterdam paths that were previously contingent rights and (ii) a small number of additional London-Brussels paths.

### 3.2 Departures from HS1's template framework agreement: please set out here, with reasons, any:

- areas where the drafting of the proposed contract or amendment omits, amends or adds to HS1's published template framework agreement (as appropriate, cross-referencing to the answers below). **C&Ps para: 5.2**
- instances where the proposal departs from the charging and/or performance regimes established by ORR's latest periodic review (or subsequent interim reviews) as reflected in the template framework agreement, including the financial implications. **C&Ps chapter 4**
- new processes which have been added. Please demonstrate how the process is robust, internally consistent and complete. **C&Ps para: 5.9**

There are no departures from HS1's template framework track access agreement.

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#### 4. The expression of access rights and the consumption of capacity

**4.1 Benefits:** please set out what specific benefits the proposal will achieve, including a justification for requiring the rights and their characteristics. Please fully describe any new rights required, as compared to the existing contract (in the case of an amendment). Please also describe any significant changes in the pattern of services, their benefits to passengers and any impact on other operators, including freight operators. Where appropriate, please provide a fully marked-up version or document comparison of any tables in Schedule 5 which are being modified as a result of this application. **C&Ps para: 3.11-3.18**

While this is a new FTAA, the firm rights are broadly similar to those approved by the ORR in EIL's current FTAA. In this new FTAA, EIL has requested a small increase in the firm rights which reflects:

- (i) the conversion of 9 weekly London-Amsterdam paths that were previously granted as contingent rights; and
- (ii) 2 additional weekly London-Brussels paths.

**4.2 Adequacy:** please set out how the applicants have satisfied themselves that there is enough network capacity for the services in the proposal. Please also set out whether there are any implications for overall network performance and HS1 Limited's maintenance and renewal activities. **C&Ps para: 3.11**

While this is a new FTAA, there are no significant changes to access rights or capacity relative to the volume that EIL has in its current FTAA (taking into account the conversion of contingent rights to firm rights) and the volumes it has been granted through the timetabling process.

**4.3 Specified equipment:** please give full details of any changes to specified equipment (rolling stock), including timescales, and how much of the vehicle and route acceptance procedure in the HS1 Network Code (Part F) has been completed. Please explain whether you have, or will have, the rolling stock necessary to exercise the rights being sought.

While this is a new FTAA, there are no changes to the specified equipment relative to the current FTAA in place.



**4.4 Franchise obligations:** please explain the extent to which the services in the proposed amendment are necessary to fulfil obligations under a franchise or concession agreement. **C&Ps para: 3.34**

EIL requires firm rights in the FTAA to enable planning of their business with a reasonable degree of assurance.

**4.5 Public funding:** please state whether (and if so to what extent) the services in the proposed amendment are subject to financial support from central or local government (other than the Department for Transport or Transport Scotland), and provide a point of contact at that body. **NB: this applies to GB operators only.**

N/A.

**4.6 Consumer organisations:** please state whether (and if so to what extent) the services in the proposed contract have been discussed with Passenger Focus and London TravelWatch, and any other relevant consumer body, whether domestic or international, and provide copies of any relevant correspondence.

We are consulting these organisations as part of the pre-application industry consultation. Copies of their responses will be provided to the ORR alongside this Form P.

## 5. Incentives

**5.1 Charges and performance:** please set out, and explain the reasons for, any instances where the proposed contract departs from the charging and/or performance regimes established by ORR's periodic review of charges as reflected in HS1's template framework agreement, including the financial implications (e.g. establishment of an access charge supplement or rebate). **C&Ps chapter 4**

There are no departures from the charging and/or performance regimes established by ORR's periodic review. The reallocation of station costs upon EIL's exit from Ebbsfleet International will be consistent with the provisions set out in the Station Access Conditions.

**5.2 Train operator performance:** please describe any planned initiatives associated with the operation of the services in the proposed contract aimed at improving the train operator's own performance.

Both parties are subject to the performance regime as described in the Passenger Access Terms which are incorporated into the FTAA.

**5.3 HS1 Limited performance:** please describe any planned initiatives associated with the operation of the services in the proposed amendment aimed at improving HS1 Limited's own performance.

Both parties are subject to the performance regime as described in the Passenger Access Terms which are incorporated into the FTAA.

**5.4 Performance regime issues:** where applicable, please provide justification for any changes to Schedule 8 of the framework agreement in the proposed amendment. If necessary, please provide any relevant information in support of the changes proposed.

N/A

## 6. Other

**6.1 Associated applications to ORR:** please state whether this application is being made in parallel with, or relates to, any other current or future applications to ORR (i.e. in respect of other track framework agreements).

EIL has entered preliminary discussions with NRIL in respect of early termination of the FTAA for Ashford International Station. At this point, however, no application has been made to ORR in this respect.

**6.2 Supporting information, side letters and collateral agreements:** please:

- state here any relevant information in support of the application, including a list and explanation of any other material being submitted (and supply copies with the application). **C&Ps para: 5.17**
- confirm here that the whole of the proposed contract between the parties has been submitted with this application and that there are no side letters or other documents which purport to qualify or otherwise affect the proposed access contract. **C&Ps para: 5.17**

N/A

**6.3 Confidentiality exclusions:** please list any parts of your application which you have excluded on the grounds of confidentiality, from the version of the proposed contract sent to consultees for any pre-application consultation process, and provide reasons. If there has been no pre-application consultation, you should state any parts of the application and proposed contract you want us to exclude from publication. **C&Ps paras 2.26-2.30**

N/A

**Note:** The remainder of this application should not be completed until after a pre-application consultation has been carried out.

## 7. Details of the pre-application consultation

7.1 Please confirm here that a pre-application consultation been carried out in line with the C&Ps. Please:

- state who conducted the consultation, and the period allowed for it (if less than 28 days, explain the reasons for this); and
- list all parties which were consulted, stating which parties, if any, made representations (other than nil returns) in response and attach their responses and any associated documentation to this form.

If a pre-application consultation has not been carried out, please explain the reasons and whether any informal discussions have been held with any third parties who might be affected by this application and the nature of any concerns which they raised. **C&Ps paras 2.35-2.80**

**7.2 Resolved issues and changes to the application:** please set out any issues raised by consultees which have been satisfactorily resolved. You may wish to refer to responses attached to this form. Please explain any changes to the application which have occurred as a result of the consultation. **C&Ps paras 2.69**

**7.3 Unresolved issues:** please set out any issues raised by consultees that have not been satisfactorily resolved, including any correspondence with that consultee. You may wish to refer to responses attached to this form. Please explain why you do not think these issues should not stop ORR approving the application. **C&Ps paras 2.69**

## 8. Certification

*Warning: Under Regulation 37 of the Regulations, any person who, in giving any information or making any application under or for the purposes of any provision of the Regulations, makes any statement which he knows to be false in a material particular, or recklessly makes any statement which is false in a material particular, is guilty of an offence and so liable to criminal prosecution **C&Ps paras 5.18***

I certify that the information provided in this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that the facility owner and the beneficiary are willing to enter into the attached contract as submitted

HS1 Limited

Train Operator

Signed: .....

Signed: .....

Date: .....

Date: .....

Name (in caps): .....

Name (in caps): .....

Job title: .....

Job title: .....

For (company): .....

## 9. Submission

### 9.1 What to send:

Please supply, in hard copy, the signed application form, one copy of the proposed contract or amendment, with copies of any documents incorporated by reference (other than established standard industry codes or documents) and any other attachments, supporting documents or information. **C&Ps paras: 2.31-2.34**

Please also supply the application form, the proposed contract or amendment and, where possible, any other supporting information, in electronic form, by e-mail or on disc, **in plain Microsoft Word format** (i.e. excluding any macros, auto-para or page numbering, or other auto-formatting). **C&Ps paras: 2.31-2.34**

### 9.2 Where to send it:

Manager, Track Access Team  
Office of Rail and Road  
25 Cabot Square  
London  
E14 4QZ

ORR HS1 Passenger Form P June 2020