

Southern 24th SG Supplemental Agreement – FGW consultation response

From: Robert Holder
Sent: 27 May 2008 16:12
To: Collins Mary
Subject: Fw: Subject: Gatwick Express & Southern Merger on 22.06.2008

Good afternoon Mary,

On the basis of this very helpful offer FGW objections are withdrawn.

Many thanks.

Rob
Network Access Manager
First Greater Western Limited

----- Forwarded by Robert Holder/Gwt on 27/05/2008 16:07 -----

"Walker, David"
To: "Collins Mary"
cc: <Rob Holder, "Bennett, Peter"
27/05/2008 12:14
Subject: RE: Subject: Gatwick Express & Southern Merger on 22.06.2008

Mary,

We have reviewed this internally and agree to time limit the Gatwick rights identified by Rob to 19th September 2009.

Rob's comments reflect a long running issue which is closely linked to the future BML franchise strategy. Whilst clearly Southern believes that Gatwick Express rights should be perpetuated beyond September 2009, this is a much more complex issue that will take time to resolve.

Therefore to expedite the merger which we would suggest time limiting the Schedule 5 changes in the 24th supplemental to 19th September 2009 and then addressing the broader point Rob has raised as part of the discussions for the December 2008 timetable.

Clearly this approach would be entirely without prejudice to any future applications Southern might make for the period after September 2009.

Rob - could you confirm whether this approach is acceptable to you?

Regards

Dave Walker
Head of Franchise & Access Contracts
Southern

-----Original Message-----

From: Collins Mary
Sent: 27 May 2008 09:18
To: Walker, David
Subject: FW: Subject: Gatwick Express & Southern Merger on 22.06.2008

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Holder
Sent: 23 May 2008 15:53
To: Collins Mary
Subject: Re: Subject: Gatwick Express & Southern Merger on 22.06.2008

Good afternoon Mary,

Thank you for this.

First Greater Western has a franchise agreement to provide a half hourly service between Reading and Gatwick via Guildford and Reigate on Mondays to Fridays and Saturdays. Delivery of this requirement has not been possible due to congestion. A core factor in the inability to reach Gatwick twice an hour from Reading is said to be inability to path services from Redhill to Gatwick and to platform at Gatwick. As a result of the inability to reach Gatwick (one train per hour does get through whilst the other terminates Redhill) the infrastructure has been declared congested by the facility owner, under regulations 23-25 of the Railways Infrastructure (Access and Management) Regulations 2005.

The effect of the proposed Supplemental Agreement is to extend rights for the Gatwick Express service from the current expiry of these rights on 19th September 2009 to 31st December 2009. This implies an enhanced priority for Gatwick Express type provisions in development of the December 2009 timetable with rights current during part of that timetable being in existence at the Priority Date for the timetable.

In view of this FGW objects to rights for Gatwick Express type service (Service Group 3.1) concerning:

platforming at Gatwick Airport;
Turnround times;
Maximum and Fastest Key Journey times; and
Service Intervals

being extended in duration. There is no objection to the rights being included in the New Southern Track Access Contract so long as they expire on 19th September 2009, and there is no objection to quantum rights applying until 31st December 2009.

I should be very grateful if you would arrange for the above to be considered.

A copy of an extract from the DfT/FGW Service Level Commitment concerning Reading - Gatwick Airport is herewith.

Many thanks.

Rob

(See attached file: FGW SLC Reading Gatwick.doc)

Network Access Manager
First Greater Western Limited