

Glossary and terms explained

Commission to deliver a simpler and more integrated railway

14 March 2023

Abbreviations

AB	Allocation Bodies
AUP	Access and Use Policy – the proposed Secretary of State approved policy governing GBR’s obligations and capabilities.
CoE	Calendar of Events
DAA	Depot Access Agreement
DAC	Depot Access Conditions
DFO	Depot Facility Owner
DfT	Department for Transport
ECM	Entities in Charge of Maintenance
EIM	European Rail Infrastructure Managers
EMU	Electric Multiple Unit
ERA	European Union Agency for Railways
ESG	Event Steering Group
FOC	Freight train operating company
FRI	Full Repairing and Insuring
GBR	Great British Railways
GBRTT	Great British Railways Transition Team
HS2	High Speed 2
IM	Infrastructure Manager
LMD	Light Maintenance Depot
LTC	Long Term Charge
LTPP	Long Term Planning Process
MU	Multiple Unit
NESA	National Electronic Sectional Appendix
NRC	National Rail Contract
NTSN	National Technical Specification Notices
ORR	Office of Rail and Road
PSC	Passenger Service Contract

RDG	Rail Delivery Group
REP	Rail Environment Policy
RfL	Rail for London
RGS	Railway Group Standards
ROC	Railway Operational Code
ROGS	The Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006 and The Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2013
RNE	RailNetEurope
RSSB	Rail Safety and Standards Board Limited
RU	Railway Undertaking
RUS	Route Utilisation Strategy
SAA	Station Access Agreement
SAC	Station Access Conditions
SFO	Station Facility Owner
SNRP	Statement of National Regulatory Provisions
TAC	Track Access Contract
TCAG	Timetable Change Assurance Group
TCRAG	Timetable Change Risk Assessment Group
TfL	Transport for London
TfW	Transport for Wales
TOC	Train (usually, passenger train) Operating Company
TOM	Target Operating Model
TPH	Trains per hour
TS	Transport Scotland
UIC	International Union of Railways
WCML	West Coast Main Line

Terms explained

2019 regulations

[The Railways \(Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019.](#)

Access and Management Regulations

[The Railways \(Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings\) Regulations 2016 \(“Access, Management and Licensing Regulations”\)](#) which implement Directive 2012/34/ EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 establishing a single European railway area (the Recast).

The Access, Management and Licensing Regulations were amended by The Railways (Access, Management and Licensing of Railway Undertakings) (Amendment) Regulations 2019).

Access Dispute Resolution Rules

Rules appended to the Network Code, which govern the handling of disputes arising from matters covered by the Code.

Concession Agreement

An agreement between the government or other authority and a party which offers to provide specified railway passenger services for a period, the terms of which may provide for the government to pay a subsidy or receive a premium for those services. For the purpose of this document the terms concession agreement and franchise agreement have the same meaning.

Connected Facility

A facility connected to the main railway network, such as a terminal, port, or light maintenance depot.

Connected Facilities Details

Details of where further information may be obtained about the nature of access to, and supply of services in, terminals, ports and service facilities to which access may be obtained under Regulations 6 and 7 of the Access and Management Regulations.

DfT

Department for Transport, a government department providing leadership across transport sectors to achieve its objectives, working with regional, local and private sector partners to deliver many of the services running within, and from, England and Wales.

Depot access contract

A contract for rights of access to a light maintenance depot, including provision of services. Also referred to as a depot access agreement.

Devolved Authorities

Regional transport bodies who grant either franchises or concession agreements. At present they are Transport for Wales, Transport Scotland, MerseyTravel, and TfL.

Engineering Access Statement

Rules regulating the arrangements for access to the various parts of the main rail network when affected by inspection, maintenance, renewal, and other works.

Facility owner

The owner of an interest in a network, station or light maintenance depot, such that their permission is needed if anyone else is to enjoy access to that facility in order to use it for, or in connection with, the operation of trains.

Firm rights

Rights of access to the main rail network granted by track access contracts which are not contingent, other than in relation to the applicable Engineering Access Statement or Timetable Planning Rules. The expression is also used to refer to Network Rail's own rights to carry out maintenance, renewal and enhancements to the main rail network under the Engineering Access Statement or Timetable Planning Rules.

Framework Agreement

This expression is used in EU Directives as referring to a general agreement setting out rights and obligations in relation to infrastructure capacity to be allocated and the related charges for a period longer than one working timetable period. In the GB context, this refers to a track access contract between an IM and access beneficiary.

Franchise agreement

An agreement between a government and a party which offers to provide specified railway passenger services for a period, the terms of which may provide for the government to pay a subsidy or receive a premium for those services. For the purpose of this document franchise agreement and concession agreement are the same.

Great British Railways

A new public body set to be established to lead fundamental industry change and modernisation, serving as Infrastructure Manager and Franchisor for the network.

Great British Railways Transition Team

Team set up to plan and lead the transition to GBR.

HM Treasury Green Book

The [Green Book](#) is guidance issued by HM Treasury on how to appraise policies, programmes and projects.

Infrastructure Manager

The Infrastructure Manager is the body that is responsible for operating, maintaining, renewing and developing railway infrastructure.

Licensing Regulations

The Railway (Licensing of Railway Undertakings) Regulations 2005 (as amended), is currently the statutory instrument implementing various EU Directives requiring most people who want to operate passenger trains or freight trains in GB to hold an appropriate Railway Undertaking licence, and associated Statement of National Regulatory Provisions (SNRP). Further information is available at:

<http://ORR.gov.uk/what-and-how-we-regulate/licensing/licensing-railway-operators/model-licences-and-statements-of-national-regulatory-provisions-snrps>

Light maintenance depot

A place at which services are provided where locomotives or other rolling stock are refuelled, cleaned externally or receive regular servicing as defined in the Railways Act 1993.

Main rail network

The rail network in Great Britain (including the Isle of Wight), of which Network Rail is the IM and/or owner (as defined by the Access and Management Regulations). Ownership may in this context include a lease or other property right. Where Network Rail owns network (e.g. in a freight depot), but has leased it to another party (e.g. a FOC) that manages that network, then the other party will be the operator and the facility is no longer part of the main rail network (for the purpose of this Network Statement).

Minimum access package

Access to facilities and a set of services for international or domestic traffic for which Directive 2012/34/EU confers rights and which include the handling of requests for infrastructure capacity and the right to use such capacity as is granted.

Notified National Technical Rules

The standards, technical specifications and technical rules in use in the United Kingdom which have been notified by the Secretary of State to the Commission pursuant to article 17(3) of the Directive or Article 16(3) of the High-Speed Directive or Article 16(3) of the Conventional Directive, including any variations from time to time notified.

National Rail Contract

New contracts between franchisor and Rail Franchises implemented after COVID-19 Pandemic, which eliminates revenue risk on operators and rewards them for good service and performance.

Network Code

A common set of rules that applies to all parties that have a track access contract with Network Rail. [The Network Code](#) is incorporated into, and therefore forms part of, each such bilateral contract.

Open Access Operator

A passenger operator that takes full commercial risk on a part of the network, in exchange for providing competitive services.

Possession (or restriction of use including temporary speed restrictions)

Non-availability of the network for full use by trains for a period when reserved for the carrying out of works.

Passenger Service Contract

New contract between operators and Franchisor to redefine relationship around performance and service quality.

Passengers' Charter

A commitment by a franchised passenger RU to its passengers as regards what passengers may expect, including as to standards of service, compensation and contact arrangements.

Principal Timetable

The working timetable that is established for the year beginning on the Sunday immediately after the second Saturday in December.

Railway Group Standards

Published by RSSB, [Railway Group Standards](#) are technical and operational documents whose objective is to provide a framework for the safe management of risk in areas of interface / co-operation between different duty holders. Compliance is mandatory by RSSB and the members of RSSB subject to any approved non-compliance arrangements that are in place. RSSB has integrated the management of RGS with the work that it does to support the industry on interoperability standards.

Railway undertaking

Any public or private undertaking, licensed according to Directive 2012/34/EU, the principal business of which is to provide services for the transport of goods and/or passengers by rail, often described as an RU.

Railway Safety and Standards Board

The Rail Safety and Standards Board was established in April 2003 with its primary objective to facilitate the railway industry's work to achieve continuous improvement in

the health and safety performance of the railways in Great Britain, and thus to facilitate the reduction of risk to passengers, employees and the affected public.

Sectional Appendix

A listing, according to line of route, of various physical and operational attributes of the main rail network, including information as to permanent speed restrictions, position of signal boxes and stations, and with other information relevant to the operation of trains.

Service provider

A party that will supply and charge for, where appropriate, services used by a RU in the operation of trains. The service provider is generally, but not always, the facility owner (for example, of a station or depot).

Station

A place where trains stop, or where loading and unloading occurs, and where assistance may be available as defined in the Railways Act 1993.

Station access contract

A contract for rights of access to a station on a rail network. Also referred to as a station access agreement.

Subsidiary Timetable

The adjustment of the Principal Timetable that is established at midnight on the third Saturday in May during the currency of the Principal Timetable.

Target Operating Model

Plan for future design and operation of a system.

Timetable Change Assurance Group

A national group composed of competent individuals who carry out assurance checks on the outputs from TCRAAGs.

Timetable Change Risk Assessment Group

A Route based group composed of competent individuals to assess the effects of proposed significant timetable changes and determine any mitigation measures to be applied.

Timetable Planning Rules

Rules regulating standard timings and other matters enabling trains to be scheduled into the working timetable on the main rail network. Please see section 2.4 for more information.

Track access contract

A contract for access to the track, including an option to have such rights of access. Also referred to as a track access agreement.

Traffic Management

This is a system under development that will allow larger areas of Network Rail's network to be controlled from fewer locations and help increase capacity and improve reliability.

Train path

This expression is used in EU Directives to refer to the infrastructure capacity needed to run a train between two places over a given time period; and in the context of this Network Statement is treated as the provision of the capacity in the timetable to enable train movement on the rail network.

Train slot

A right contained in a track access contract to a train movement between two places, together with certain other characteristics, which may include times at those places, routing, calling pattern, traction type, and exceptional characteristics by specific agreement. These characteristics must be reflected when processed by Network Rail in production of the working timetable (using the rules set out in the Network Code).

Transport Scotland

Transport Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government, directly accountable to the Scottish Ministers. [Transport Scotland](#) seeks to deliver a safe, efficient, cost-effective and sustainable transport system for the benefit of the people of Scotland.