

Government Legal Department

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Your Ref: Z1806070/SCX/CLGA

Our Ref: RWS/ADS/00173458/1

Date: 1 June 2018

Dear Sir or Madam

East Coast Franchise

We write further to your 25 May 2018 letter, sent in reply to our 15 May 2018 letter.

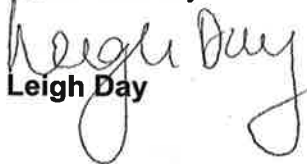
In our 15 May letter, we raised a number of questions about the panel review process. This was sent prior to the announcement by the Secretary of State on 16 May 2018 that the current East Coast franchise will come to an end on 24 June 2018.

Paragraph 1 of your letter makes clear and confirms that, while the franchise itself will come to an end on 24 June, a final decision on whether the passports currently held by Stagecoach and Virgin Holdings should be revoked as a result of the franchise failure has not yet been reached. Clearly, we would ask that as soon as a final decision rather than provisional view has been reached, you duly inform our client of the outcome and in doing so; please provide copies of all/any documents provided to the review panel and/or Secretary of State which are relevant to and / or have formed the basis of the upcoming decision. Please also provide a copy of any reasoned decision.

In the meantime, please also provide us with copies (redacted where appropriate) of the franchise agreement or, more broadly, those agreement(s) which document the arrangement(s) in place with LNER as the operator of last resort.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully


Leigh Day

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