



Department  
for Transport

[Redacted]  
Great Western Railway  
Milford House  
1 Milford Street  
Swindon  
SN1 1HL

Jeremy Hotchkiss  
Deputy Director  
Rail Technical Industry Competitiveness  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Web Site: [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)

Our Ref: RFSPEC 16/23/2

14 November 2019

Dear [Redacted],

### **The Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011 – Great Western HST sets - 2020 accessibility deadline**

Regulation 45 of the Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011<sup>1</sup> (RIR 2011) makes it unlawful for a passenger rail vehicle to be used in service on the trans-European rail system in the UK after 31 December 2019 unless it complies with the current or future versions of the Technical Specification for Interoperability - Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM TSI) (and/or defined domestic accessibility standards<sup>2</sup>) except to the extent that:

- a. a derogation from part of the PRM TSI has been granted under Regulation 14 of RIR 2011;
- b. a determination that part of the PRM TSI does not apply has been made under Regulation 13(8) of RIR 2011; or
- c. a dispensation that part of the PRM TSI does not apply has been granted under Regulation 46 of RIR 2011.

**This is a dispensation (effective from the date of this letter) made under Regulation 46(4) of the RIR 2011, granting that the vehicles listed in Annex A, which form the trains known as Great Western Short Formed HSTs need not comply after 31 December 2019 with those parts of the PRM TSI 2014 in Annex B. This follows consultation with DPTAC<sup>3</sup>.**

For the avoidance of doubt, a separate derogation or determination made under point a) or b) above would be required for any vehicle listed in Annex A that undergoes an upgrade or renewal that requires an authorisation under RIR 2011 after this dispensation.

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<sup>1</sup> SI 3066/2011

<sup>2</sup> The Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2001 or Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail System) Regulations 2010

<sup>3</sup> The Disabled Persons' Transport Advisory Committee

I have copied this dispensation to Angel Trains Limited, First Rail Holdings Limited and the ORR for their information.

Yours sincerely,

**Jeremy Hotchkiss**

signed by the authority of the Secretary of State

**Annex A**

<b>Units</b>	<b>Vehicles</b>			
GW01	49101	48101	48102	48103
GW02	49102	48104	48105	48106
GW03	49103	48107	48108	48109
GW04	49104	48110	48111	48112
GW05	49105	48113	48114	48115
GW06	49106	48116	48117	48118
GW07	49107	48119	48120	48121
GW08	49108	48122	48123	48124
GW09	49109	48125	48126	48127
GW10	49110	48128	48129	48130
GW11	49111	48131	48132	48133
Spare Vehicles	49112	49113	48134	48135

**Annex B**

4.2.2.1.1(2)	Height of seatback handholds
4.2.2.7.3(4)	The next stop display visibility.
4.2.2.7.4(5)	Standards for quality of audio announcements
4.2.2.9(2)	Radius of handrails
4.2.2.11.1(1)	Platform gap stepping distances
5.3.2.2 (2)	A visual and tactile (or audible) indication to indicate when a door has been locked.
5.3.2.3 (2)	Toilet door width.
5.3.2.3 (3)	Provision of a fixed vertical and/or horizontal handrail adjacent to the toilet seat and the wash basin.
5.3.2.4 (4)	Height of toilet seat (applies GW06-GW11 sets only)

5.3.2.5 (1)	Dimensions of nappy change table.
5.3.2.9 (1)	Maximum slope of manual boarding ramp