



Department
for Transport

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Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

Our Ref: RFSPEC 16/23/2

25 June 2020

Dear [Redacted]

The Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011 – Class 156 units in use with Northern Trains Limited - 2020 accessibility deadline

Regulation 45 of the Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011¹ (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 Technical Specification for Interoperability - Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM TSI) (and/or defined domestic accessibility standards²) 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 some of the trains known as Class 156, need not comply after 31 December 2019 with those parts of the PRM TSI 2008 listed in Annex B. This follows consultation with DPTAC³.

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.

This letter replaces the previous dispensation granted on 11 December 2019.

I have copied this dispensation to the ORR for their information.

¹ SI 3066/2011

² 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

³ The Disabled Persons' Transport Advisory Committee

Yours sincerely,



Jeremy Hotchkiss

signed by the authority of the Secretary of State

Annex A

Units	Vehicles
156 438	52438 and 57438
156 443 and 156 444	52443, 52444, 57443 and 57444
156 447	52447 and 57447
156 448	52448 and 57448
156 449	52449 and 57449
156 451	52451 and 57451
156 454	52454 and 57454
156 463	52463 and 57463
156 465	52465 and 57465
156 468 and 156 469	52468, 52469, 57468 and 57469
156 471 and 156 472	52471, 52472, 57471 and 57472
156 475	52475 and 57475
156 479 to 156 491 inclusive	52479 to 52491 and 57479 to 57491 inclusive
156 496	52496 and 57496

Annex B

4.2.2.4.1 para 4	Arrangement of door controls
4.2.2.4.2.1 para 1	Door sensitive edges
4.2.2.4.2.1 para 2	Width of doorway
4.2.2.4.2.1 final para	Height of door controls
4.2.2.4.2.2 para 1	Timing of door control illumination
4.2.2.5	Illumination of step/floor threshold
4.2.2.7 para 3	Width of clearway
4.2.2.8.2.1 para 1	Signage
4.2.2.8.3 para 1	Lack of external bodyside PIS displays
4.2.2.8.3 para 16	Volume of announcements

4.2.2.10 para 4	Height of handrail in doorway
4.2.2.12.1	Platform/train gap & step