



Department  
for Transport

From the Minister of State  
**Chris Heaton-Harris MP**

Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Tel: XXXXXXXXX  
E-Mail: XXXXXXXX@dft.gov.uk

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

Our Ref: GA/05/2021

XXXXXXXX  
Engineering Director  
Abellio East Anglia Limited  
11th Floor, One Stratford Place  
Montfichet Road  
London E20 1EJ

27 May 2021

Dear XXXXXX,

### **The Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011 – Class 321 Abellio East Anglia - 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 Technical Specification for Interoperability - Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM TSI) set out in the Annex to Decision 2008/164/EC of the European Commission of 21 December 2007, or any amended version of it, or Commission regulation 1300/2014 of the European Commission of 18 November 2014 which replaced it, or National Technical Specification Notices on Persons of Reduced Mobility that replaced Commission Regulation 1300/2014 from 1 January 2021, or any variation of the NTSN or any NTSN which replaces it (and/or defined domestic accessibility standards<sup>2</sup>) except to the extent that:

- a. a derogation from part of the PRM TSI or NTSN was granted under regulation 14 before 31 December 2020, or an exemption from part of it has been granted under Regulations 14 and 14A of RIR 2011;
- b. a determination that part of the PRM TSI or NTSN does not apply has been made under Regulation 13(8) of RIR 2011; or
- c. a dispensation that part of the PRM TSI or NTSN 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 Class 321 need not comply after 31 December 2019 with those parts of the NTSN listed in Annex B. This follows consultation with DPTAC<sup>3</sup> and is subject to compliance with the following conditions:**

---

<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

- a. The dispensation applies to operation of the vehicles by Abellio East Anglia Limited only;
- b. The existing level of accessibility standards compliance is maintained;
- c. Greater Anglia will continue to carry out the measures that it has undertaken to assist customers with reduced mobility where and when the Class 321 units are in operation and will continue to provide information on non-compliant features of vehicles and alternative travel options is readily available to passengers to assist with informed journey planning.
- d. The operator reports to the Secretary of State on progress to replace the vehicles every 2 weeks from 1 June 2021 until the dispensation expires.
- e. The permission granted by this dispensation to Abellio East Anglia Limited expires at **23:59 on 31 December 2021**.

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.

I have copied this dispensation to Eversholt UK Rail Limited and the ORR for their information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris', with a small yellow mark below it.

**Chris Heaton-Harris MP**

**Minister of State for Transport**

signed by the authority of the Secretary of State

## Annex A

Unit	Vehicles			
321410	63072	71958	77952	78104
321440	63134	72020	78160	78309
321441	63135	72021	78161	78310
321447	63103	71989	78129	78278
321331	63005	71910	77883	78079
321333	63007	71912	77885	78081
321335	63009	71914	77887	78083
321336	63010	71915	77888	78084
321337	63011	71916	77889	78085
321338	63012	71917	77890	78086
321339	63013	71918	77891	78087
321340	63014	71919	77892	78088
321341	63015	71920	77893	78089
321342	63016	71921	77894	78090
321343	63017	71922	77895	78091
321406	63068	71954	77948	78100
321409	63071	71957	77951	78103
321421	63083	71969	77963	78115
321423	63085	71971	77965	78117
321424	63086	71972	77966	78118
321426	63088	71974	77968	78120
321427	63089	71975	77969	78121
321430	63092	71978	77972	78124
321433	63127	72013	78153	78302
321434	63128	72014	78154	78303
321436	63130	72016	78156	78305

## Annex B

4.2.2.1.2.1 (1)	Priority seating numbers
4.2.2.1.2.1 (9)	Priority seating dimensions (height)
4.2.1.3 (4)	Height of door controls
4.2.2.2 (6)	Width of wheelchair tipping screen
4.2.2.2 (7)	Tip up seating in wheelchair space
4.2.2.2 (9)	Wheelchair space companion seat
4.2.2.2 (11)	Call for aid in wheelchair space
4.2.2.2.6 (1)	Clearway to wheelchair space
4.2.2.3.1 (5)	Arrangement of door open and close buttons
4.2.2.3.2. (7)	Audible door enabled tone duration
4.2.2.3.2 (9-12)	Audible door closing correct tone
4.2.2.3.2. (9)	Visual door closure indicator – illumination cessation on closure

4.2.2.3.3. (4)	Height of interior door controls
4.2.2.4 (1)	Vehicle access step illumination
4.2.2.5 (5)	Baby changing facilities
4.2.2.7.3 (1& 2)	Platform facing PIS screen
4.2.2.7.4 (5)	PIS STI-PA level
4.2.2.9 (1)	Diameter of handrails
4.2.2.9 (1)	Clearance to handrails
4.2.2.9 (4 &5)	Position of handrails in doorway
4.2.2.11.1	Platform step/gap
5.3.2.2 (1)	Height of toilet door lock
5.3.2.2. (2)	Toilet lock information
5.3.2.2 (3)	Force to operate toilet door lock
5.3.2.2 (4)	Colour contrast on standard toilet fixtures
5.3.2.2 (5)	Toilet signage information
5.3.2.2.(6)	Standard toilet seat contrast
5.3.2.3 (2)	Width of standard toilet door
5.3.2.3 (3)	Fixed vertical and/or horizontal handrails by the standard toilet wash basin
5.3.2.4	Universal Accessible Toilet
5.3.2.7 (4 & 5)	PIS Compressed Decenders