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It is extremely disappointing to see that trains on the Bakerloo, Piccadilly, Central and Waterloo and City Line will not meet the deadline to provide accessible trains for every passenger and every journey by the end of the year.

As an operator you have had ten years to prepare for the 31 December 2019 deadline set in the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail System) Regulation 2010. It is deeply frustrating that disabled passengers will still be waiting into the next decade to see the accessibility improvements that will be delivered through the introduction of the new trains you have recently procured.

Let me be clear that we are absolutely committed to ensuring that all passengers can travel by rail with ease and confidence. The Secretary of State's powers to permit non-compliant vehicles to continue in operation have not been used lightly and should never result in detriment to the quality of disabled passengers' journeys.

In letters to Lord Ahmad in 2017, you committed to delivering upgrade works on the Jubilee, Bakerloo and Waterloo and City lines by the end of 2019. Yet I am now being asked to grant London Underground exemptions from delivering these upgrades - on some lines for up to six years.

These requirements are essential for those with cognitive or physical impairments if they are to access your trains and navigate safely and independently through your network. Waiting until 2026 for this to be fully delivered is unacceptable for some passengers.

However, our hand has been forced by your failure to meet this deadline, despite a significant period of time for you to prepare. Without an exemption, it would become necessary to remove non-compliant trains from service – which would have a disproportionately negative effect on the provision of services for all passengers.

It is for these reasons that I have reluctantly agreed to issue strictly time-limited exemptions to London Underground Limited. But it remains the case that you must provide evidence to the Secretary of State to demonstrate that your refurbishment programme for these vehicles remains on track. I have copied this letter to the Mayor of London for his information.

My position on these matters is unequivocal. You must urgently address the issue of providing accessible rail carriages. Delivering an accessible service for every passenger on every rail journey is essential to creating an inclusive and accessible railway. It must not be delayed any longer.

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON