

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Planning and Development Committee

A virtual meeting of the above-named Committee will be held
on Tuesday, 16 March 2021 at 7.30 pm

Following Government advice, essential meetings of Horley Town Council will be held virtually during the Covid-19 crisis and not in the Council Chamber. All papers will be published on our website and social media channels as normal. Members of the public may join the meeting remotely by requesting a Zoom link (by email to: town.clerk@horleytown.com) by no later than one hour before the start of the meeting.

A G E N D A

1. Virtual Meeting (Committee Chairman)

To resolve that in view of the Covid-19 crisis, the meeting of the Planning Committee on 16 March 2021 is to be held virtually.

2. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

To receive from members any Declarations of Interest in relation to any items included on the Agenda for this Meeting.

4. Public Forum

Members of the public are invited to put questions or draw relevant matters to the Council's attention. Each member of the public is allowed to speak once only and for a maximum of five minutes in respect of a business item on the agenda and shall not speak for more than five minutes at the discretion of the Chairman. If it appears that the number of speakers is likely to unreasonably delay the disposal of business items on the agenda, the Chairman may direct that a member of the public submits a question or comment in writing which shall be answered in due course. At the end of the Public Forum, members of the public will have their video feed turned off and microphone muted by the meeting facilitator. They may however remain to see and hear the meeting but may no longer take part unless invited to do so at the discretion of the Chair.

5. Approval of Minutes

Planning & Development Committee held on 16 February 2021.

6. Planning Updates

Planning & Development Committee held on 16 February 2021.

7. Determined Planning Applications

To consider the list of applications determined for the period 12 February 2021 – 11 March 2021.

8. Registered Planning Applications

To consider the list of applications registered for the period 12 February 2021 – 11 March 2021.

9. Planning Appeals

- i) To consider any Planning Appeals received.
- ii) To consider any Planning Appeals determined.

10. Ongoing Planning Matters

To receive an update on any matters.

11. **Railway Matters**
 - i) **Govia Thameslink Railway Accessible Travel Policy** – to note information received.
 - ii) To receive an update on any other matters.

12. **Highways Matters**
 - i) **Horley Pavement Audit Committee (HPAC)** - To receive any updates.
 - ii) **A23 and Bonehurst Road, Traffic Survey Request made to SCC**– to receive an update
 - iii) **The SCC Various Roads in Reigate and Banstead and Mole Valley Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order 2021** – To note information received.
 - iv) To receive an update on any other matters.

13. **Airport Matters**
 - i) **GATCOM: DfT Consultation on Stage 1 Night Flights (Closed 3 March 2021)** - To ratify this Council's response and to note the GATCOM response.
 - ii) **GAL Annual Report and Financial Statements** – to note information received
 - iii) **GATCOM: Weekly Newsletters & Updates** - To note information received.
 - iv) To receive an update on any other matters.

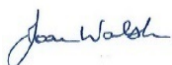
14. **Letters Received.**

15. **Diary Dates.**

16. **Items for Future Consideration.**

17. **Press Release** - To agree items for inclusion.

Date of next meeting: 20 April 2021



Signed: Town Clerk

Dated: 11 March 2021

During the period 12 February – 11 March

List of Determined Applications – Horley

By Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

Applications Approved			
Application Number	Details	HTC Comments	Decision
<u>20/02625/CLE</u>	15 Church Road Horley Surrey RH6 7EY A certificate of lawful development (existing use) is sought to regularize the existing and continued use of the building and grounds immediately south of no 15 Church Road and as per the attached site location plan as a self-contained C3 residential dwelling. As amended on 12/02/2021.	No objections	Approved with conditions
<u>20/02742/HHOLD</u>	Copperwood 3 Russells Crescent Horley Surrey RH6 7DJ Single storey rear extension	No objections	Approved with Conditions
<u>21/00017/HHOLD</u>	7 Chesters Horley Surrey RH6 8BP Garage (not in use as such) conversion, improve insulation, adding pitched roof with skylights.	No objections	Approved with Conditions
<u>21/00019/HHOLD</u>	Cherrytree Rosemary Lane Horley Surrey RH6 9HG Proposed rear extension and new pitched roof	No objections	Approved with Conditions
<u>21/00021/HHOLD</u>	38 Queens Road Horley Surrey RH6 7AH Proposed single storey extension	No objections	Approved with Conditions
<u>21/00046/HHOLD</u>	55 Hyperion Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7DA Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension. As amended on 18/02/2021.	No objections. However, we do have concerns about the adjacent tree which is on public land.	Approved with Conditions

During the period 12 February – 11 March

Applications Refused and Withdrawn

By Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

Applications Refused			
Application No:	Details	HTC Comments	Status
<u>20/02474/CLE</u>	8 Bolters Road South Horley Surrey RH6 8HT Single storey extension within 3m of existing rear wall and loft conversion to 1st floor	No objections	Refused

List of Planning Applications
Registered by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
During the period 12 February – 11 March 2021

To see plans please CTRL+click on the application number to follow the link

01. RBBC Letter Dated: 15/02/21	Application No: 21/00224/CLE
LOCATION:	Land Parcel At The Grove Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	The use of the land known as "The Grove", Victoria Road, Horley (shown edged red on the submitted plan) for the parking and/or storage of vehicles for travellers using Gatwick Airport (airport car parking), and for the parking and storage of commercial vehicles.
Cons Expiry Date: 08/03/21; Determination Deadline: 26/03/21;	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections
02. RBBC Letter Dated: 16/02/21	Application No: 21/00314/HHOLD
LOCATION:	Newstead Hall Lodge Haroldslea Drive Horley Surrey RH6 9PH
DESCRIPTION:	Erection of a timber log garage with concrete base. Garage dimensions of 7500mm w x 6500d x 3728mmh (to ridge). Concrete slab thickness of 150mm reinforced with 2 layers of A 142 reinforcement sheets increased to 300mm for the walls of the garage with 150mm compacted type 1 road stone beneath.
Cons Expiry Date: 09/03/21; Determination Deadline: 07/04/21;	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections
03. RBBC Letter Dated: 16/05/21	Application No: 21/00193/HHOLD
LOCATION:	Fircroft 58A Oakwood Road Horley Surrey RH6 7BU
DESCRIPTION:	Single-storey rear extension
Cons Expiry Date: 09/03/21; Determination Deadline: 08/04/21;	
History	15/00410/HHOLD – Extension above the double garage which has a flat roof. 15/01970/HHOLD – First floor extension above the garage and new roof to existing garage/porch
Status	15/00410/HHOLD – Refused 15/01970/HHOLD – Approved with Conditions
Comments	15/00410/HHOLD – No objections 15/01970/HHOLD – No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections although the Council queries whether the external finishes on the proposed extension will match the existing dwelling.

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04. RBBC Letter Dated: 18/02/21	Application No: 21/00246/HHOLD
LOCATION:	8 Rickwood Langshott Horley Surrey RH6 9DF
DESCRIPTION:	Single storey rear extension and loft conversion with rear flat roof dormer
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 11/03/21; Determination Deadline: 29/03/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections

05. RBBC Letter Dated: 22/02/21	Application No: 21/00276/HHOLD
LOCATION:	83 Lumley Road Horley Surrey RH6 7JF
DESCRIPTION:	First floor side/front extension to form new bedroom
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 15/03/21; Determination Deadline: 01/04/21;</i>	
History	07/01352/F – Pitched roof over existing single storey rear extension
Status	Approved with Conditions
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections

06. RBBC Letter Dated: 23/02/21	Application No: 21/00288/HHOLD
LOCATION:	21 Heritage Lawn Langshott Horley Surrey RH6 9XH
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed two storey side extension incorporating addition over existing single storey garage. As amended on 22/02/2021
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 15/03/21; Determination Deadline: 02/04/21;</i>	
History	20/02750/HHOLD – Proposed two storey side extension incorporating addition over existing single storey garage. As amended on 04/01/2021.
Status	Refused
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections

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07. RBBC Letter Dated: 23/02/21	Application No: <u>21/00046/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	55 Hyperion Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7DA
DESCRIPTION:	Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension. As amended on 18/02/2021
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 09/03/21; Determination Deadline: 08/03/21;</i>	
History	<u>17/00036/HHOLD</u> – 2 storey side extension. As amended on 22/03/2017 <u>20/00598/HHOLD</u> – Two storey side extension
Status	<u>17/00036/HHOLD</u> – Approved with Conditions <u>20/00598/HHOLD</u> – Approved with Conditions
Comments	<u>17/00036/HHOLD</u> – No objections <u>20/00598/HHOLD</u> – No objections. However, we do have concerns about the adjacent tree which is on public land.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections. However, we do have concerns about the adjacent tree which is on public land.

08. RBBC Letter Dated: 23/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00304/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	40 Avenue Gardens Horley Surrey RH6 9BS
DESCRIPTION:	Demolish existing rear extension and garage, form new rear wrap around ground floor extension
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 16/03/21; Determination Deadline: 05/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections

09. RBBC Letter Dated: 24/02/21	Application No: <u>21/00327/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	8 Bolters Road South Horley Surrey RH6 8HT
DESCRIPTION:	Retrospective: Erection of single storey rear extension and extension to rear dormer.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 17/03/21; Determination Deadline: 21/04/21;</i>	
History	<u>20/02474/CLE</u> – Single storey extension within 3m of existing rear wall and loft conversion to 1st floor
Status	Pending Consideration
Comments	n/a
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	No objections

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10. RBBC Letter Dated: 25/02/21	Application No: <u>20/02930/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	Chalet At Trentham Peeks Brook Lane Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	Retrospective approval for replacement garden building in revised position from consent 17/00561 and revised use as ancillary use to the dwelling and support building for the caravan site. As amended on 23/02/2021.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 11/03/21; Determination Deadline: 09/03/21;</i>	
History	<u>18/01826/HHOLD</u> – Replacement garden building in revised position from consent 17/00561/HHOLD
Status	Refused
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	No objections subject to a condition that it cannot be converted into a habitaul dwelling without submitting a change of use application.

11. RBBC Letter Dated: 26/02/21	Application No: <u>21/00430/TPO</u>
LOCATION:	30 Haroldslea Drive Horley Surrey RH6 9DU
DESCRIPTION:	T3 Sycamore- Fell, tree is being suppressed by two very mature Oak trees. T3 has poor form and is leaning. Main stem is damaged by barbed wire wrapped round the tree which is now unable to be removed which is likely to cause death of tree. Removal would add amenity value as Oaks would be main feature of garden and surrounding area. It would appear other Sycamores have been removed along this line.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 19/03/21; Determination Deadline: 19/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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12. RBBC Letter Dated: 03/03/21	Application No: 21/00345/HHOLD
LOCATION:	Acorns 34 Smallfield Road Horley Surrey RH6 9AT
DESCRIPTION:	Erection of attached garage to side of house, rendered to match, following removal of existing detached garage to the east of the property.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 24/03/21; Determination Deadline: 23/04/21;</i>	
History	20/00790/HHOLD – Construction of wooden garage building with workshop and store room/games room in the South-East corner of the garden, plus access driveway and new fencing along the Eastern boundary of the property.
Status	Approved with Conditions
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

13. RBBC Letter Dated: 04/03/21	Application No: 21/00401/HHOLD
LOCATION:	5 Willow Brean Horley Surrey RH6 8EA
DESCRIPTION:	Two storey rear extension with new side window to existing bedroom
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 25/03/21; Determination Deadline: 14/04/21;</i>	
History	17/02758/HHOLD – Erection of a 2 storey rear extension with a gable end roof and the addition of a side window for the existing rear bedroom.
Status	Approved with Conditions
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (for approval by Planning Sub-Committee prior to deadline and ratification at meeting, 16/03/21)	

14. RBBC Letter Dated: 04/03/21	Application No: 21/00388/HHOLD
LOCATION:	20 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7PF
DESCRIPTION:	Single storey flat roof extension onto detached bungalow, extension will span the whole width of the property and extend out to a maximum of 4 metres.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 25/03/21; Determination Deadline: 27/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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15. RBBC Letter Dated: 05/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00372/CLP</u>
LOCATION:	30 Thomas Waters Way Horley Surrey RH6 9FZ
DESCRIPTION:	The building of a rear elevation extension, single storey
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 26/03/21; Determination Deadline: 13/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

16. RBBC Letter Dated: 05/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00414/CLP</u>
LOCATION:	4 Queens Court Queens Road Horley Surrey RH6 7AJ
DESCRIPTION:	Dormer window for living space with 2no Velux Windows. Loft conversion with dormer window for living space with 2no Velux Windows.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 26/03/21; Determination Deadline: 16/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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17. RBBC Letter Dated: 05/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00325/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	Ladram 53 Haroldslea Drive Horley Surrey RH6 9DT
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed part single storey/part double storey rear extension, double storey side extensions (east and west side), roof extension to incorporate habitable space with 2no. feature glazed dormers and front porch
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 26/03/21; Determination Deadline: 28/04/21;</i>	
History	<u>18/00755/HHOLD</u> – Proposed two storey front, side and rear extension and front porch <u>18/01662/HHOLD</u> – Demolition of the existing conservatory, proposed rear extension, part single storey/part two storey side extension and proposed infill to the southwest corner of the existing dwelling. As amended on 18/10/2018. <u>19/01209/S73</u> – Demolition of the existing conservatory, proposed rear extension, part single storey/part two storey side extension and proposed infill to the southwest corner of the existing dwelling. Variation of condition 1 of permission <u>18/01662/HHOLD</u>.
Status	<u>18/00755/HHOLD</u> – Refused <u>18/01662/HHOLD</u> – Approved with Conditions <u>19/01209/S73</u> – Approved with Conditions
Comments	<u>18/00755/HHOLD</u> – No objections <u>18/01662/HHOLD</u> – No objections <u>19/01209/S73</u> – No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

18. RBBC Letter Dated: 08/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00425/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	2 Brotherton Avenue Horley Surrey RH6 8GQ
DESCRIPTION:	Side/rear extension
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 29/03/21; Determination Deadline: 30/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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19. RBBC Letter Dated: 08/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00390/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	7 Bremner Avenue Horley Surrey RH6 8EP
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed single storey rear extension
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 29/03/21; Determination Deadline: 14/04/21;</i>	
History	<u>21/00389/CLP</u> – Proposed loft conversion dormer roof extension
Status	Registered
Comments	n/a
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

20. RBBC Letter Dated:	Application No: <u>21/00389/CLP</u>
LOCATION:	7 Bremner Avenue Horley Surrey RH6 8EP
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed loft conversion dormer roof extension
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 29/03/21; Determination Deadline: 14/04/21;</i>	
History	<u>21/00390/HHOLD</u> – Proposed single storey rear extension
Status	Registered
Comments	n/a
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

21. RBBC Letter Dated: 08/03/21	Application No: <u>21/00410/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	66 Castle Drive Horley Surrey RH6 9DE
DESCRIPTION:	Construction of a part one/ part 2 storey side gabled roof extension with rear dormer and the construction of a gabled roof extension to the existing loft room.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 29/03/21; Determination Deadline: 30/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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22. RBBC Letter Dated: 09/03/21	Application No: 21/00344/F
LOCATION:	11 - 15 High Street Horley Surrey RH6 7BJ
DESCRIPTION:	Single storey roof extension on the flat roof of the existing building to provide 2 residential units
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 30/03/21; Determination Deadline: 06/05/21;</i>	
History	20/00862/PAP3O – Convert the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors from offices (use class B1a) into 19 dwellings (use class C3). 20/00867/PAP3M – Convert the rear part of the ground floor of the building (use class A2) into 3 dwellings (use class C3).
Status	20/00862/PAP3O – Prior Approval Not Required 20/00867/PAP3M – Prior Approval Not Required
Comments	20/00862/PAP3O – n/a 20/00867/PAP3M – n/a
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

23. RBBC Letter Dated: 09/03/21	Application No: 21/00247/S73
LOCATION:	The Paddocks 50 Meath Green Lane Horley Surrey RH6 8HY
DESCRIPTION:	Construction of one detached house with associated landscaping. Variation of Condition 1 of permission 19/02530/F. Change to condition to allow for amended drawings. Changes to include utility room door & velux windows.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 30/03/21; Determination Deadline: 28/04/21;</i>	
History	19/02530/F – Construction of one detached house with associated landscaping. As amended on 27/01/2020, 09/03/2020, 03/04/2020 and on 10/04/2020
Status	Approved with Conditions
Comments	No objections, however due to the poor quality of the site layout it is unclear where access to site is situated
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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24. RBBC Letter Dated: 09/03/21	Application No: 21/00520/TPO
LOCATION:	1 Stocks Close Horley Surrey RH6 9GU
DESCRIPTION:	T1 Oak - Tip prune the South side of the crown to shorten the lateral branches by one metre. The reason is due to the proximity to the house roof and car damage due to falling acorns. T2 Ash - Fell due to Chalara disease. T3 Oak - Reduce the crown by 25% leaf volume. This being 1.5m height reduction and 0.75 lateral branch length reduction. The reason is because the tree is one sided and leaning over and close to the house.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 30/03/21; Determination Deadline: 28/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

25. RBBC Letter Dated: 10/03/21	Application No: 21/00364/F
LOCATION:	3 Brighton Road Horley Surrey RH6 7HH
DESCRIPTION:	Conversion of and extension to existing 10 Bedroom Guest House, with Manager's residential accommodation, to create 6 No flats where supported living will be provided for adults. Change of use from Guest House (C1 use), to 6 No flats for adults with support needs (C3 use).
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 31/03/21; Determination Deadline: 01/05/21;</i>	
History	04/01826/F – Two storey rear and side extension to provide 5 extra guest bedrooms and owners accommodation (Drg nos. PBR/2003/27/01, PBR/2003/27/05). Amended plans were received on 13/9/04 showing details of floor plans, block plan and elevations. (Drwg No. PBR/2003/27/05, 07, 08, 09)
Status	Approved with Conditions
Comments	No objections
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

26. RBBC Letter Dated: 11/03/21	Application No: 21/00449/HHOLD
LOCATION:	Stadwey 1 Queens Road Horley Surrey RH6 7AH
DESCRIPTION:	Double storey extension to side of house and single storey rear extension.
<i>Cons Expiry Date: 01/04/21; Determination Deadline: 21/04/21;</i>	
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (16/03/21)	

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Tree Works (Non-Felling)

A. RBBC Letter Dated: 26/02/21	Application No: 21/00405/TPO
LOCATION:	14 Bridges Close Horley Surrey RH6 9SG
DESCRIPTION:	T1 Oak - Remove the split branch to the secondary growth that is behind the split. T2 Oak - Shorten the lateral branches on the house side of the tree to the previous pruning points, this being branch shortening of 1m. T3 Oak - Remove the split limb to the main union that is behind the split.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (Planning Officer delegation):	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree Officer.

B. RBBC Letter Dated:	Application No: 21/00538/TPO
LOCATION:	Horley Council Langshott Allotments Off Ladbroke Road Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	T1,4,7,9,13 Oak- Prune lateral branches growing towards neighbouring properties by 1.5 to 2m back to suitable growth points. Council have received a number of complaints regarding overhang of trees and whilst most are are not impeding on neighbouring gardens five have been identified that are growing over neighbouring properties. Pruning will bring these five trees back in line with rest of tree line.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (Planning Officer delegation):	No comment – application pertains to Council property

C. RBBC Letter Dated: 10/03/21	Application No: 21/00550/TPO
LOCATION:	Street Record Granary Close Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	T1 Oak : Reduce 2 branches on North-East side overhanging road by 4 metres. Reduce end wight for safety reasons.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (Planning Officer delegation):	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree Officer.

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The following applications are for information only
Applications validated week beginning 01 February
<u>20/02034/DET09</u> – Cumberland Guest House 39 Brighton Road Horley Surrey RH6 7HH Submission of Construction Transport Management Plan details pursuant to Condition 9 of permission 20/02034/F. Conversion of guest house and coach house to create eight self contained flats for occupation by residents in need of a limited element of care (use class C3). Single storey extensions to front and rear elevations of main building and extension to the coach house.
Applications validated week beginning 08 February
<u>21/00312/CON</u> – Langshott Infant School Smallfield Road Horley Surrey RH6 9AU Details of a Travel Plan effectiveness monitoring report submitted pursuant to Condition 2 of planning permission ref: RE18/02666/CON dated 3 May 2019.
<u>20/00690/DET03</u> – Ringwood 85 Parkhurst Road Horley Surrey RH6 8EX Submission of materials details pursuant to condition 3 of permission 20/00690/F. Proposed detached bungalow
<u>20/01103/DET04</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of hard and soft landscaping details pursuant to Condition 4 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>20/01103/DET12</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of environmental desktop study details pursuant to Condition 12 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>20/01103/DET13</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of land site investigation details pursuant to Condition 13 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>20/01103/DET14</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of contaminated land site details pursuant to Condition 14 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>20/01103/DET15</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of remediation method statement details pursuant to Condition 15 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>20/01103/DET16</u> – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA Submission of unexpected ground contamination details pursuant to Condition 16 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.
<u>04/02120/RM5E</u> – Horley North West Development Meath Green Lane Horley Surrey Reserved Matters Application for Phase 5 of development at North West Horley (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to 04/02120/OUT for the provision of 3no. play areas, enhancements to Bolters Wood, open space areas and the detailed design for the spine road (inc. landscaping, parking and access junctions) and associated levels, lighting, drainage and ancillary works. As amended on 14/09/2020, 04/01/2021 and on 12/02/2021.
Applications validated week beginning 15 February
<u>18/01411/DET03</u> – Aintree House 54 Bonehurst Road Horley Surrey RH6 8QG Submission of materials details pursuant to condition 3 of permission 18/01411/F. Erection of a detached family house at the rear of 52-56 Bonehurst Road. Demolition of a detached garage and a single-storey extension to 52 Bonehurst Road to facilitate access to the proposed site.

List of Planning Applications
Registered by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
During the period 12 February – 11 March 2021
To see plans please CTRL+click on the application number to follow the link

[18/01411/DET05](#) – Aintree House 54 Bonehurst Road Horley Surrey RH6 8QG | Submission of landscaping details pursuant to condition 5 of permission 18/01411/F. Erection of a detached family house at the rear of 52-56 Bonehurst Road. Demolition of a detached garage and a single-storey extension to 52 Bonehurst Road to facilitate access to the proposed site.

[18/01411/DET08](#) – Aintree House 54 Bonehurst Road Horley Surrey RH6 8QG | Submission of construction transport management plan details pursuant to condition 8 of permission 18/01411/F. Erection of a detached family house at the rear of 52-56 Bonehurst Road. Demolition of a detached garage and a single-storey extension to 52 Bonehurst Road to facilitate access to the proposed site.

Applications validated week beginning 22 February

[21/00484/CAN](#) – Colwyn 22 Ringley Avenue Horley Surrey RH6 7HA | Prune 1 Pittisporum located at rear of property by Reducing crown height by 1-2 m

[20/00123/DET04](#) – 2A Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7PF | Submission of tree protection plan details pursuant to condition 4 of permission 20/00123/HHOLD. Single-storey side extension (Front elevation 5.3m wide - Back elevation 2.7m wide). The extension will be : 2 bedrooms, pitched roof, maximum height of 5.05 metres (as the original house), eaves height of 2.4 metres (as the original house), materials to match existing.

[21/00532/PDE](#) – 12 Castle Drive Horley Surrey RH6 9DB | Proposed single storey rear extension. Maximum height 3.55m, height at eaves 2.60m and extending 4.22m beyond the rear wall.

Applications validated week beginning 01 March

[20/01103/DET10](#) – 62 Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7NA | Submission of energy and water efficiency statement details pursuant to Condition 10 of permission 20/01103/F. Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings.

[20/00671/NMAMD1](#) – Seymour Haroldslea Horley Surrey RH6 9PH | Non-Material Amendment to appeal decision 20/00671/HHOLD : Insertion of two windows on North elevation.

**During the period 12 February – 11 March
Appeals Lodged – Horley**

Application No / Planning Inspectorate Reference:	Details	Case Type	Application Date

Appeals In Progress (Awaiting Decision) – Horley

Application No / Planning Inspectorate Reference:	Details	Case Type	Hearing Date
<u>19/01417/OUT/AP APP/L3625/W/20/3262007</u>	M & G Catering Equipment 10A High Street Horley Surrey RH6 7AY Demolition of existing buildings and erection of one four storey block containing 12 1-bed apartments. As amended on 28/11/2019 and on 06/02/2020.	Appeal against Refusal of DC Application	
<u>20/01459/ADV APP/L3625/Z/20/3262646</u>	Waitrose And Car Park Victoria Road Horley Surrey RH6 7PZ 1no. set of new internally illuminated building letters, 3no. sets of replacement internally illuminated building letters and 2no. sets of illuminated building letters to be removed. 1no. internally illuminated totem sign to be replaced. 24no. signs to be replaced. 1no. new vinyl to be replaced and 8no. new vinyls to be installed. 14no. new signs to be installed. 1no. cafe projecting sign to be installed. 1no. Cafe A- frame to be placed. 1no. internally illuminated fascia to be installed. 11no. signs to be removed.	Appeal against Refusal of ADVT Applic'n	

Appeals Decided – Horley

Application No / Planning Inspectorate Reference:	Details	Case Type	Decision
	None that are relevant to Horley		

Accessible Travel Policy



WE'RE WITH YOU



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A. Commitments to providing assistance

Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) is the parent company for the following train companies. It runs the largest rail network in the country, operating services across the south-east of England under the following brands:

Southern

Extensive network from London to stations across Sussex and Surrey, the south coast and suburban 'metro' services across south London and to Milton Keynes via Watford Junction.

Gatwick Express

Direct services between London Victoria and Gatwick Airport (and some services towards Brighton).

Thameslink

Network of services linking many stations north of London such as Bedford, Cambridge, Peterborough, St Albans with destinations south of the River Thames via St Pancras International such as London Bridge, East Croydon, Sutton, Gatwick Airport, Brighton, Horsham and Rainham (Kent).

Great Northern

Services from London King's Cross to Peterborough, King's Lynn via Cambridge and suburban services from Moorgate towards Hertford North, Welwyn Garden City and Stevenage.

GTR is fully committed to creating a more accessible and inclusive railway. We want all our customers to have the confidence to travel on our network no matter their access need, or the level of support they require.

We operate one of the busiest and most complex networks in the country and understand that we need to provide a robust system of support for all our customers.



To achieve these aims, we are:

- ensuring the processes we have in place lead to a high level of assistance at all stages of the journey
- treating all our customers as individuals and providing them with the assistance that meets their specific needs
- making our trains, our stations (those stations managed by us) and facilities as accessible as possible
- providing the training our people (those employed by us) need to be able to provide excellent customer service and assistance to disabled customers
- working with industry partners to maximise opportunities to improve accessibility on our network, which includes working with Network Rail on the accessibility support at their managed stations and on the provision of lifts across stations which serve our customers
- exploring innovative solutions to enhance how we provide assistance to our customers

This document forms our Accessible Travel Policy and describes how we will work towards achieving these commitments. It also explains the processes we have in place, sources of accessibility information and our approach to making accessibility improvements on our network.

Our Accessible Travel Policy document is accompanied by our customer leaflet, "Making Rail Accessible". This leaflet describes what customers can expect from us throughout their journey, including if things do not go as planned. Customers can obtain a copy on our websites. It is also available at all staffed stations where our train services call.

We are committed to maximising the availability of the "Making Rail Accessible" leaflet at public places and will work in partnership with our stakeholders to make it available at places like council offices, libraries, community centres and schools.

Further information on the accessibility of our stations and trains can be found in separate documents accompanying our Accessible Travel Policy.



A1. Booking and providing assistance

Booking assistance before travel is entirely optional.

For booked assistance, we participate in a national booking system called Passenger Assist, which enables assistance to be booked before the journey. Our Assisted Travel Team can arrange booked assistance. They can also give travel advice (e.g. timetable information, station staffing details) for travel on our services (Southern, Thameslink, Great Northern and Gatwick Express) as well as any other train operator's services during the time those services operate. Details of these times are included on the individual station pages of the National Rail Enquiries website, nationalrail.co.uk

Through Passenger Assist, we will coordinate arrangements with other train operators – for example, if the journey involves changing onto a service operated by another operator, we can book assistance for the whole journey.

When booking assistance, our trained team of advisors will look at individual customer needs and will plan journeys by checking specific details, including station accessibility information and staff availability via the National Rail Enquiries website. They will ensure that appropriate assistance is in place at each stage of the journey. We will send customers confirmation of the arrangements – normally by email (information can be provided by post or alternative format such as large print by request).

We commit to providing sufficient staff to maintain the assisted travel service, and we aim to answer 80% of calls within 30 seconds and aim to respond to email and online requests within six working hours.

For every booking confirmation, we provide a link to a short survey within the booking confirmation to facilitate feedback regarding the booking and journey experience to help us to monitor and continuously improve our performance.

Our dedicated assistance team are available every day (except Christmas Day) between 07.00 am to 10.00 pm.

Southern/Gatwick Express

Phone: 03451 272920
NGT Text : 0800 138 1018
Email: comments@southernrailway.com

Thameslink/Great Northern

Phone: 0345 026 4700
NGT Text: 0800 138 1018
Email: customerservices@thameslinkrailway.com
customerservices@greatnorthernrail.com

Recommended notice period for booking assistance

We recommend that assistance is booked by 10:00 pm the day before travel in order for us to make appropriate arrangements. However, we fully understand that booking is a choice and many people choose to travel spontaneously. Many of our stations and trains have staff available to offer both unbooked and booked assistance.

We are working with partners within the rail industry, such as other train operators, to introduce innovative solutions that will enable us to reduce the notice period for pre-booking assistance. GTR commit to reducing the recommended booking period to six hours notice before travel by April 2021 and two hours by April 2022.

Assistance at our stations

We manage 240 stations. These vary widely with regards to physical facilities and staffing levels (ranging from unstaffed, staffed for part of the day through to fully staffed at all times that trains operate). We apply the ORR's categories for station accessibility. Further details regarding station accessibility are available on our Station Information summary on our web sites or from Assisted Travel.


Whether customers pre-book assistance or prefer more flexibility, we recommend arriving 20 minutes prior to the train's scheduled departure time so we can make the necessary arrangements to provide assistance on to the train, including ensuring that staff are aware of any assistance needed at the destination.

At our stations, any of our staff can provide assistance. At many stations, customers can contact them at our ticket gates or the ticket office (notably at smaller stations) or via help points.

All our stations also have a designated meeting point where passengers who have booked assistance can meet with or contact our staff. Assisted Travel will advise of the location of meeting points when we confirm booked arrangements.

When booking assistance, our Assisted Travel team will establish each customer's specific requirement and identify the most appropriate option to enable them to make their journey. In the case of unstaffed stations, they will look at various options, including deploying staff from another station or if necessary, arranging alternative transport.

For unbooked assistance at our staffed stations, customers can ask a member of our station team, who will discuss their needs and make arrangements to ensure they reach their destination.



Similarly, when travelling from any of our unstaffed stations, customers can contact us via help points to seek assistance from our off-site dedicated journey support team based at our control centre. The support team will ensure that customers can reach their destination, whether by train or if necessary by providing alternative transport.

Many of our Southern trains also have either a Conductor or On-Board Supervisor (OBS), who are trained to step onto the platform when the train arrives into the station, to identify any passengers requiring boarding assistance and to provide this assistance. On trains where on-board staff are present, they will provide alighting and boarding assistance at any unstaffed stations that we call at (including stations managed by other train operators).


Our station staff will provide assistance to board a train service and will advise any on-board staff of any customers with assistance needs, including any assistance needed at the destination.

Our station staff follow a handover procedure to ensure that colleagues at the destination (or interchange) station with designated responsibility for providing assistance are contacted by telephone via a dedicated telephone number and are aware of specific assistance required at the destination. This protocol is followed for all journeys, whether booked or not. In cases where a destination station is unstaffed, staff will make contact with a nearby station. They will identify whether a team member is available to go to the unstaffed station or to arrange an alternative journey plan to enable our customer to reach their destination.

When the train arrives at a GTR operated station, our staff will ensure that help leaving the train is available – we will do all we can to ensure that assistance is provided within five minutes of the train's arrival at its terminus station, where reasonably practicable. GTR does not manage all stations that serve our passengers and commit to working closely with those that manage these stations to deliver the same.

Our station and on-board staff will provide manual boarding ramps for customers who require assistance boarding/leaving trains whether travelling booked or unbooked.

At stations within our Thameslink Core (London St Pancras through to London Bridge), the accessible carriages stopping point will align with raised level boarding areas (or 'humps'). Staff are on hand at the level boarding areas, at all times that trains call to notify the destination station of any passenger requiring assistance and also to provide any assistance for passengers leaving the train.



On occasions when services are disrupted (or on occasions when a train's platform number is altered at short notice), we will provide information about changes via both audible (e.g. manual and automated announcements) and visual (display screens) at our stations. Our staff will always work with the customer to identify the best option to enable customers to reach their destination.

Our staff are all trained to look out for any disabled passengers proactively and to tailor any support as necessary.

Mobile Support Team

At ten unstaffed/partially staffed Southern stations that are predominantly served by Thameslink trains, we ask unbooked customers who require boarding assistance to contact our control centre 20 minutes before their train is due to depart. Customers can contact the control team either via the help point (emergency and assisted travel button) or via a freephone number.

Posters (supported by frequent audible messages) are provided at each of these stations to raise awareness of these arrangements. The control team will then arrange appropriate assistance (usually sending mobile staff who are based a short distance from these stations). This arrangement is in place at the following stations only;

- Dormans – Thameslink peak services only
- Earlswood
- Faygate
- Ifield
- Lingfield- Thameslink peak services only
- Littlehaven
- Riddlesdown – Thameslink peak services only
- Salfords
- Upper Warlingham- Thameslink peak services only
- Woldingham – Thameslink peak services only

We aim to roll out this service at 41 more stations in the form of a trial as soon as the passenger numbers after the COVID-19 pandemic reach a level which makes a trial possible (50% of bookings compared to pre-COVID times).

Assistance with onward travel

Our staff will, where practicable, assist with any relevant onward travel, such as to the taxi rank, bus or tram stop and airport assistance point (within a station boundary). Information regarding onward travel is also available at our stations; on posters, from our staff and via display screens.

Our Assisted Travel team can also provide travel advice ahead of a journey, including information regarding local taxi companies. We will do all we reasonably and practicably can to ensure those taxi operators who provide taxis at our stations include the provision of accessible taxis. We will build this into relevant contract negotiations going forward.

Station facilities & services

We commit to ensuring that our station accessibility information is up to date on the National Rail Enquiries website, including details on step-free access, staffing times and meeting points for assistance.

We will ensure that information on the National Rail Enquiries website reflects any limitations or temporary changes to station lifts. In these circumstances, we will work with customers to find an appropriate solution.

Assistance with luggage

We will do all practicable to provide assistance with luggage for disabled customers (and others who need this assistance) within our staffed stations and when boarding and alighting trains. This service is free of charge.

As a guide, where assistance is provided, it can only be provided with up to two items of luggage which should not exceed 30 X 70 X 90cm in size and a single item of hand luggage that must be capable of being held in the customer's lap. It is recommended to have pull-along cases and follow airline recommendations of not exceeding 23kg per bag.

Where luggage assistance has not been booked in advance, we will do our best to assist, but this may be limited by the availability of staff at short notice.

We don't offer seat reservations on any of our services, and our Assisted Travel team will make this clear at the booking stage. However, where a journey involves another operator's service that has reservable seats, our Assisted Travel team can make reservations for this part of the journey upon request.



Wheelchair spaces

All our trains have wheelchair spaces within the standard class seating area only, which are marked on the outside of the carriage. We do not have wheelchair spaces within first-class areas. Wheelchair spaces aren't reservable, although our staff will make every reasonable effort to ensure wheelchair users have priority using wheelchair spaces. If all wheelchair spaces are all occupied, they will work with the customer to identify the best option to enable them to reach their destination.

Our staff are briefed to make sure customers are not offered a ticket they cannot make use of (for example, due to no wheelchair spaces in first class).

Priority seating

We also provide Priority Seating areas on all our trains for disabled customers, expectant mothers, older customers, and those carrying infants. We also acknowledge that customers may have a temporary need for a priority seat, for example, during medical treatment. Priority seats are clearly labelled on our trains and in many cases are designated with contrasting seat fabric. They are usually located close to exit doors, so they are more accessible to customers who need them.

To make it easier for customers who may need a seat, we have a Priority Seat card scheme to support requesting a Priority Seat from other customers.

Our staff will assist customers to a seat on the train if required and take all reasonable steps to ensure these areas are available to those who need them.

Assistance dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome on all our services.



A.2 Information Provision

A.2.1 Accessible Travel Policy documentation including alternative formats

We provide a customer guide that summarises this Accessible travel Policy, titled 'Making Rail Accessible'. This guide outlines practical information to enable disabled people to travel with confidence across our network.

Copies will be available from all our staffed stations, stations our trains call at managed by other operators, or from our Assisted Travel team and website (in PDF format).

Copies are also provided to local stakeholder partners, including mobility forums and user groups. Guidance is also provided to these group on how people can request further copies if required. We are committed to extending the availability of copies to further locations where public services (e.g. health care) are provided across our network.

This policy document, our 'Making Rail Accessible' leaflet and station and train accessibility information are all available in alternative formats on request via our Assisted Travel team, including audio and large print versions. We aim to provide alternate format documents within seven working days of a request. If this is not possible, we will advise within seven working days of the delivery timescale.

At each of our stations, we also provide signage at heights accessible to wheelchair users and visually-impaired customers outlining how to obtain our 'Making Rail Accessible' leaflet and policy document.

A.2.2 Station & train accessibility information

We will ensure station and train accessibility information is kept up to date and readily available to our customers. We make sure it is accessible using screen readers and other software with accessibility features, such as Adobe Reader. Station information is also available via the National Rail Enquiries website, and we are working with industry partners to improve this information, including more detailed station classifications.

Station and train accessibility information is available on our website in a PDF format. This can be found at:

Stations

www.southernrailway.com/stationaccessibility
www.thameslinkrailway.com/stationaccessibility
www.greatnorthernrail.com/stationaccessibility
www.gatwickexpress.com/stationaccessibility

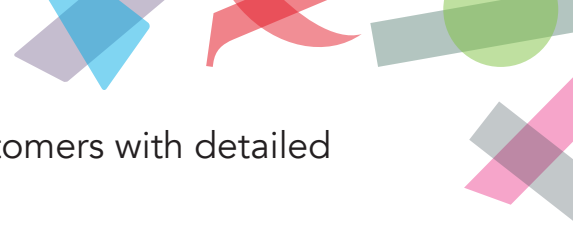
Trains

www.southernrailway.com/fleetaccessibility
www.thameslinkrailway.com/fleetaccessibility
www.greatnorthernrail.com/fleetaccessibility
www.gatwickexpress.com/fleetaccessibility

To make it easy for all customers to plan their journeys, we have produced a map showing the level of step-free access for all stations on our network. We regularly review and update this to ensure it is as accurate as possible to help customers understand which journeys are more accessible. This will not include any temporary changes to step-free access, e.g. out of order lifts, which are provided on the National Rail Enquiries website (Station & Train Info pages). This map is available in a downloadable PDF format on our website.

We provide up to date accessibility information to our station staff to ensure they can provide the best possible assistance to our disabled customers and help them complete their journey. All our front line staff have access to live information to enable them to deliver assistance. All on-board and many station-based staff have mobile devices to provide access to train running information and live bulletins provided by our control centre. Our teams have access to a variety of key 'live' accessibility information. Examples include;

- Lift status email reports
- Live train toilet service status app
- Phone directory app to enable quick contact with staff able to provide assistance at stations
- An online 'Accessibility library' providing access to the latest briefing materials



Our Assisted Travel team are also able to provide customers with detailed information regarding station and train accessibility.

Throughout our franchise, we have made a significant investment in our fleet through both the introduction of new trains and refurbishing our existing fleet to ensure our trains are accessible for all customers. As a result of this investment, accessible features on our trains include;

- Priority seating on all trains
- Accessible spaces with low-level passenger alarms
- Audible and visual information systems
- Boarding ramps (most of our trains)
- Accessible toilets (most of our trains)

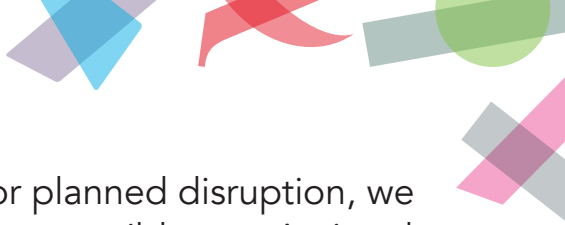
We continuously work towards improving accessibility at our stations and with others who manage stations which serve our customers, including through our annual accessibility fund, we commit to improving things such as;

- Accessible toilets
- Accessible seating
- Signage and wayfinding
- Visible and audible customer information
- Induction loops
- Help points

We also work in partnership with Network Rail and the Department for Transport (DfT) to deliver largescale accessibility improvements such lift schemes through the Access for All fund.

A.2.3 Passenger journey information

We want to make sure it is easy for all our customers to find important information, especially for those who are not frequent rail users. At all times, we will try to provide clear and accurate information to our customers, especially during times of disruption. We will take into account that customers have a wide range of impairments at every stage of the journey - whether at home, online, on the move – at the station or on the train, to ensure everybody has access to this information.



When we provide rail replacement buses or coaches for planned disruption, we use accessible vehicles. In circumstances when this is not possible, our Assisted Travel and frontline teams will always identify an alternative journey plan to enable disabled customers to complete their journey.

We have processes in place to ensure that information is available to customers, our staff and other rail operators when there are any changes to accessible facilities at stations. We provide regular updates for customers on any temporary changes to accessible facilities at our stations on our website, which provides the same information available on the National Rail Enquiries website. Where a station facility is unavailable, we will work with our customers to find a suitable alternative.

On-board facilities are essential to ensuring all customers have a comfortable journey. We have robust processes in place to monitor and maintain the accessible facilities on our trains. However, despite this, sometimes an accessible facility may not be available, such as an accessible toilet. Our station staff will check whether an accessible toilet is available before providing boarding assistance to any customer who might need it. Where an accessible toilet is not available, our staff will inform the customer and discuss with them if they still wish to travel on that train or agree on a suitable alternative, such as travelling on a different service.

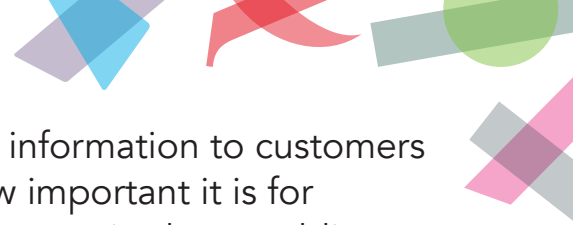
During the journey, disabled passengers can obtain live information on services including during times of disruption via a number of sources - contacting staff at our control centre via help points or by contacting our social media team via Twitter (24-hour coverage).

We also have a dedicated assisted travel section on each of our branded websites outlining contact details for assisted travel. We provide useful information such as our Wheelchair & Scooter policy and travel support tools, including Priority Seat Card, Travel Support Card and our Easy Travel Guide.

Train departures and arrivals information

At most of our stations, customer information is provided through customer information screens at various locations around the station and audio announcements. This ensures clear and consistent audio and visual information is provided on the platforms and other areas of the station.

Most of our stations also have help points for customers to contact a member of staff for assistance or information.



We are committed to providing clear visual and audio information to customers whilst they are onboard our trains. We understand how important it is for accurate on-board information to be provided. All of our trains have public address systems that can be used for automated and manual announcements including 'next stop' announcements. Services on parts of our Southern network also have Conductors and On-board Supervisors.

We are committed to ensuring drivers and other on-board staff are given the training they need to make clear and informative announcements. Our on-board staff all have access to real-time journey information.

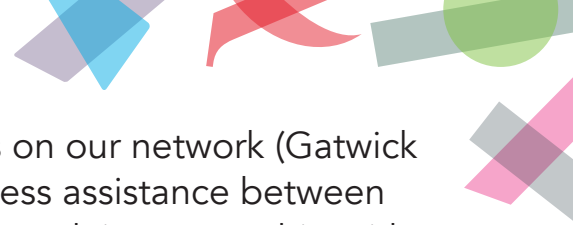
We understand how important it is to provide customers with the information they need during disruption and on some of our trains we are also able to provide customers with up-to-date information directly through our information screens and automated announcements.

On all our services, calling pattern information will be provided to ensure customers have enough time to prepare to disembark when they reach their destination.

Connections & wayfinding

We have clear signage in place to ensure disabled customers can navigate easily and confidently around our stations. We regularly monitor how effective this signage is and look at ways to improve this both in our stations and with our industry partners at Network Rail managed stations where our services call.

We understand how important it is to work closely with local authorities across our network. Our Stakeholder Managers have regular discussions with local authorities, MPs, Rail User Groups etc. to ensure signage is clear and up to date with further input from our Access Advisory Panel to ensure signage remains accurate. For example, accessible entrances, onward travel options, step-free routes, publicising any temporary changes in the local vicinity or to station accessibility. We ensure that signage is available at our stations to help passengers locate the 'Town Centre' and provide 'Local Information Posters' and 'Onward Travel Posters' for nearby bus stops etc. At some larger stations, live local bus information screens are also provided.



We also work in partnership with the airport operators on our network (Gatwick and Luton) to make sure that customers receive seamless assistance between the railway (train) and airport (plane). For example, we work in partnership with the airports to provide clear wayfinding between the station and airport, and to make sure it is easy for customers to locate rail and airport assistance staff. For example, at Gatwick Airport station, we changed our branded signage to reflect the airport signage for consistency throughout the airport.

Our Assisted Travel team are trained to check accessibility information when making customer bookings through Passenger Assist. They are also regularly briefed about any changes to station accessibility or connections with other services. This ensures that where a customer books a journey that involves travel with more than one operator, our Assisted Travel team can provide accessibility information for their whole journey.

Delays and disruption

There are times when our services may be disrupted. In addition to the provision of audible and visual information in our stations and on our trains, during these times our Assisted Travel team will try to proactively contact customers who have booked assistance through all reasonable means and using contact details provided.


Our mobile app and websites also show live train running information and help points are available at the majority of our stations to enable customers to check their journey.

Planned disruption – engineering works

We communicate planned engineering work in advance via audible and visual information across communication channels.

Our Assisted Travel team will also proactively contact anyone who has booked assistance with us through Passenger Assist to review any booked journeys affected by unplanned engineering works. They will work with customers to review alternative journey options and agree on a suitable alternative journey plan.

For customers who have provided a contact telephone number either our Assisted Travel team, station staff or our off-site team based at our Rail Operations Control centre will make reasonable efforts to inform them in advance and make alternative arrangements. If it is not possible to contact a customer who has booked through Passenger Assist in advance, our station staff (and on-board staff, where available) will have mobile phones. They will actively assist those customers who arrive at the station with making arrangements for a suitable alternative.



We will also use our website, Twitter, and other communication methods to support and proactively provide information to customers during unplanned and planned disruption.

A2.4 Information Points, help points and contact centres

We recognise the importance of providing our customers with clear, accurate and up to date information.

At our staffed stations, service information is available in person at ticket offices during advertised staffing hours, which are clearly signed within the station and from other station staff.


We will ensure that easily accessible information is available at all our stations.

At our larger stations, we provide clearly signed information points that are designed with ease of use by disabled passengers in mind, providing information such as timetables and how to obtain our 'Making Rail Accessible' leaflet. Whether the information point is staffed or unstaffed, we will ensure information is easy to locate (normally located on the station concourse) and as a minimum available whenever the ticket office is open. In all cases, we will ensure that information is available at a suitable height to enable all customers to access it.

At our unstaffed stations and many of our staffed stations, help points are in place to enable customers to speak directly with off-site teams, including National Rail Enquiries for train running information and our dedicated Assisted Travel support team, if required.

In addition to contacting off-site teams through our help points, at some of our stations, customers are also able to speak directly to our off-site Assisted Travel Support team by calling a freephone (or text) number. Where this is available, it is advertised at those stations on posters at an accessible height for wheelchair users.

Both our Assisted Travel team (who book assistance) and our off-site Assisted Travel Support team (who can be contacted via station help points and at some Southern stations via freephone or text) can provide journey planning advice and organise boarding assistance. As with our station staff, they will undertake to understand the customer's specific requirements and based on the circumstances they will identify. They will agree on the most appropriate journey plan – this may involve redeploying staff from another station, dispatching mobile or on-board staff or arranging for alternative accessible transport.



We are committed to ensuring our staff, whether based in our station or in our control centre, have up-to-date information available to them on:

- The facilities, services and accessibility of all the stations at which our trains call. For consistency, this will be through access to National Rail Enquiries station pages
- Timetables information
- Toilet status on our trains
- Information on fares and ticketing
- Information relating to connections with other operators' train services
- Information regarding the accessibility of other forms of onward transport
- Delays, disruption, diversions and emergencies which affect the advertised timetable

A.2.5 Websites

We want as many people as possible to be able to use our websites. We are committed to working towards achieving the industry recognised Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), which define how to make web pages and content more accessible for people with disabilities.

We also provide a link on our websites to access the 'Making Rail Accessible' leaflet and details of how to obtain it in accessible formats. We also offer guidance on how customers can provide feedback or make a complaint, and we include information on the availability of redress in the event something has gone wrong for an assistance booking.

If customers need assistance on our website content in a different format such as accessible PDF or large print, this can be requested via our Assisted Travel team.



A.3 Ticketing & fares

We offer a range of options for purchasing tickets to suit all customer needs and preferences. Customers can buy tickets online, at ticket offices, from Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs) and from on-board staff (where available).

If disabled customers are unable to purchase a ticket at a station before they travel due to our facilities being unavailable, they can buy a ticket without penalty at their destination or from on-board staff (where available). We will also ensure that any reduction they are entitled to is applied, such as the applicable discount for holders of the Disabled Persons Railcard discount.

Ticket vending machines are available at all our stations. These are low level for the convenience of wheelchair users and other disabled customers. They are enabled to issue tickets at the reduced rate for holders of a Disabled Persons Railcard and the holder's companion.

Many of our stations have automatic ticket gates, and where these are in place, there will always be at least one wide gate that is designed for disabled passengers. When a station with automatic gates in unstaffed or staff is not in attendance at the gateline, we will leave these gates locked open.

Purchasing tickets in advance of the journey

We will provide information to customers to advise them of any restrictions on our services that may mean they cannot make use of any tickets purchased in advance (such as accessibility of rolling stock or due to no wheelchair spaces in first class).

Further information or help on purchasing tickets can be found on our websites, or by speaking to a member of station or on on-board staff.

We support the industry-wide schemes for our customers with as follows:

Blind or visually impaired customers travelling with a companion

If a customer is blind or visually impaired and travelling with a companion, both the customer and their companion are entitled to the following discount on an adult fare:

Ticket Type	Discount on adult fare
First Class/Standard Anytime Single or Return	34%
First Class/Standard Anytime Day Single	34%
First Class/Standard Anytime Day Return	50%

To qualify for this discount scheme, the customer must provide a document confirming their disability from a recognised institution (for example Local Authority, Blind Veterans UK or RNIB) when purchasing their ticket and when travelling.

A discount is also available on season tickets for blind or visually impaired customers. Customers can buy one adult Season ticket that enables a companion to travel with them at no extra cost. Customers do not have to have the same companion travelling with them on every journey.

Disabled Persons Railcard

Customers who have a Disabled Persons Railcard are entitled to 1/3 off rail travel for them and a companion whenever they travel.

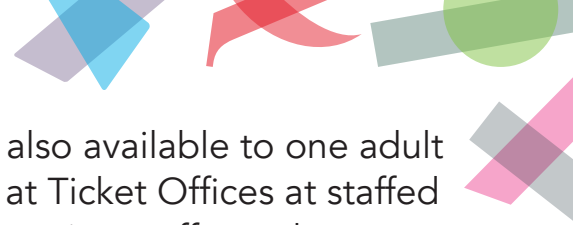
Further details on the Disabled Persons Railcard, including eligibility criteria and how to apply and other discounts, can be found at:

Website: disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk
 Email: disability@raildeliverygroup.com
 Tel: 0345 605 0525
 Textphone: 0345 601 0132

Customers who stay in their wheelchair for a rail journey (and do not have a Disabled Persons Railcard)

Customers who stay in their wheelchair during a rail journey are entitled to the discounts below.

Ticket Type	Discount on adult fare
First Class/Standard Anytime Single or Return	34%
First Class/Standard Anytime Day Single	34%
First Class/Standard Anytime Day Return	50%



This concession applies to adult and child fares and is also available to one adult travelling with the customer. This discount is available at Ticket Offices at staffed stations, and customers are encouraged to advise our station staff member that they will be staying in their wheelchair during the journey and request the discount to be applied.

Senior Railcard

Customers who are 60 or over can buy a Senior Railcard. This gives a discount of up to 1/3 off most rail fares in the UK. Some restrictions apply in Southern England in the morning peak period, including on our services so please check before travelling

Further details on this concessionary scheme can be found at:

Website: senior-railcard.co.uk
Email: railcardhelp@railcards-online.co.uk
Tel: 0345 300 0250

A.4 Alternative accessible transport

Please refer to the station accessibility information section for more details on the physical features and facilities at our stations, including step-free access.

For customers wishing to travel from or to one of our stations which is not accessible due to it being unstaffed at the time of the journey, or due to a physical feature (such as steps to platforms), we will identify the most appropriate journey option based on the customer's specific circumstances.

Wherever possible, we aim to ensure that customers can travel by train for as much of the journey as practicable. At unstaffed stations, we will consider whether staff can be deployed to provide assistance. In some cases, we may provide a free taxi (accessible, if required) between the inaccessible station and the nearest or most convenient accessible station. There is no additional cost for this service above the cost of the rail ticket.

We are committed to the rolling out of a mobile assistance team to provide ramp assistance at 41 stations that are partially staffed or unstaffed. We plan to introduce this on a trial basis at the earliest opportunity when passenger numbers have increased following the COVID-19 pandemic. For booked travel, our Assisted Travel team will consider every customer's specific requirements in advance of travel to organise a suitable journey plan. Similarly, for unbooked travel, the staff at our stations, on our trains and off-site will follow the same principle to enable customers to complete their journey.

Rail replacement buses

We source buses via Go Ahead London and comply with relevant regulations including PSVAR subject to any official derogations. This contract is reviewed on an annual basis to consider any changes to increase the availability of accessible vehicles.

At least 12 weeks before all major engineering works, we take steps to assess our requirement for accessible vehicles to maximise their availability. Our approach is to ensure that the experience of disabled people when buses are provided closely resembles that of non-disabled people during all planned engineering works.

If we provide a taxi due to non-availability of a suitable (accessible) vehicle, we will do all we can to ensure the alternative transport waiting time is similar to the passengers' who can use a non-accessible bus/coach. Our staff are briefed ahead of any planned disruption to support disabled people. For example, they will consider suitable (sheltered) waiting facilities and access to toilets. If any delay is known for alternative transport and that it will be greater than 30 minutes beyond the original expected times, they will inform the customer immediately and maintain regular contact as required.

Not all local authorities have mandatory disability equality training in place when they issue taxi or minicab licences. Therefore, we can't guarantee that all drivers we use received such training.

A.5 Scooters & mobility aids

Wheelchairs

All our trains and boarding ramps are designed to safely accommodate wheelchairs (including powerchairs) within the designated spaces on board provided they are no greater than the following dimensions;

Width: 700mm

Length: 1,200mm

Weight: 300kg (including the user)

Mobility Scooters

We recognise the importance of scooters as a mobility aid for many customers, especially as our station facilities vary widely, with the majority having a gap between the platform and train. Our policy is designed to enable scooter users to travel safely. We are always happy to assist customers to board and alight from our trains using manual boarding ramps (and level boarding at Thameslink stations between London St Pancras and London Bridge).

For safety reasons we can only accept scooters on our services that meet the following requirements;

Width: 700mm

Length: 1,200mm

Weight: 300kg (including the user)

Have a turning radius of no more than 1,500mm

Where the above specifications are exceeded, we are also unable to provide journey support via an alternative vehicle.

We ask customers to always listen to the advice given by our staff and consider whether they are comfortable to steer it up a short steep ramp over the gap between the platform and train. Our staff will be unable to take the controls for the customer.

For customer safety, we ask that scooters are not driven above 3 miles per hour whilst at any station. Customers can place their scooter in the accessible space and should not block the area around the doors. When parked on board a train, scooters should be locked to prevent it rolling. We ask that scooter users transfer from their mobility scooter to the seating provided.

Many rail replacement buses are unable to accept mobility scooters. If possible, our station teams may be able to store a mobility scooter, for collection later.

Scooter policies do vary between train operators. Some may not allow customers to take their scooter on board. If travelling with another operator, customers can check their scooter policy at nationalrail.co.uk or by calling 08457 484950 or contact our Assisted Travel team.

A.6 Delays, disruption and emergencies

We understand the impact that disruption to our services can have on all passengers and in particular those who are disabled. Our staff will always work with passengers on an individual basis, if necessary, to ensure they are supported and able to complete their journey- whether on an alternative train service or via a suitable (accessible if required) replacement vehicle.

During periods of significant disruption, we will, where possible and if necessary, deploy additional staff from head office roles to support our rostered station teams.

As stated in section A.4 above, we source rail replacement buses via Go Ahead London and comply with relevant regulations subject to any official derogations.

If an inaccessible bus is provided for unplanned disruption, we will ensure that a suitable alternative taxi is arranged. Our staff (whether on-site or via our help points) will identify and organise suitable alternative transport based on the circumstances, arranging an accessible taxi if required.

For passengers who have booked assistance through Passenger Assist, whose journey has been disrupted, we will do all we reasonably can to make contact using telephone details provided when the booking was made. Our Assisted Travel team will check alternative journey options, and with input for the customer will identify the most appropriate alternative journey plan - considering alternative rail services, rail replacement buses or taxi transfers. This information will be provided both aurally and/or by email according to the passenger's preferences.


Emergency situations

We carry out emergency planning exercises, which include due consideration of the needs of disabled people.

There are information posters on our trains outlining what to do in an emergency. In most cases, it is safest to remain on the train and wait for instructions.

Our Assisted Travel team can explain the emergency information that is displayed on our trains to our customers upon request.

All of our trains have passenger alarms that enable contact with the driver in an emergency. On some trains, additional low-level alarms are located close to



wheelchair spaces, and our staff will ensure these are explained to customers when providing boarding assistance.

In an emergency such as evacuating a station or train, our staff are trained to work with the emergency services to assist disabled people. In such situations, disabled customers should follow their instructions, and they will make all necessary arrangements to facilitate safe assistance.

Each of our stations has its own detailed station emergency plan which takes into account the needs of disabled passengers. In case of emergency, trained staff, with the assistance of the emergency services where applicable, will assist passengers to a safe place.

A.7 Station facilities

Left luggage

Although we don't operate any left luggage facilities, they are available at Gatwick Airport, London Victoria, London St Pancras International and King's Cross stations, all with step-free access. These facilities are provided by the Excess Baggage Company who charge for this service. The Excess Baggage staff will take the luggage from customers at their reception following security checks and will lock it away securely until the customer returns to collect it. More details on this service can be found online at excessbaggage.com or by calling 0800 524 4822.

Third-party provided facilities

We will do all reasonably practicable to ensure that any services and facilities provided by a third party are as accessible as possible such as not locating facilities that would create an obstruction. We will build this into relevant contract negotiations going forward.

Disabled (Blue Badge) parking

We have car parks at most of our stations, and the majority of our station car parks have one or more marked bays for Blue Badge parking and are covered by CCTV. These are generally the space(s) closest to the station entrance in the car park. Parking is free for Blue Badge holders. Parking with a Blue Badge is only permitted in Blue Badge bays. However, if all Blue Badge bays are occupied, Blue Badge holders may still park free of charge in a standard bay.

Some of our car parks have automatic number plate recognition in place.



At these car parks, Blue Badge holders should register either online or by telephone. Registration can either be carried out annually (through our online car parking portal) or on a daily basis by telephone. Please note that the registration is only for that specific vehicle/ number plate.

We make regular checks to prevent misuse of the spaces. We have introduced 'Space Thief' signage to enable easy reporting of any abuse of Blue Badge bays to our car park operator to prevent misuse.

Parking on yellow or red lines, reserved bays or outside of designated bays is likely to result in a penalty notice.

We will ensure our bays are compliant with the DfT Accessible Stations Code of Practice or will seek a derogation from the DfT where applicable.

Replacement facilities

Where accessible facilities are less than that normally provided (and anticipated to be unavailable for a significant amount of time), we will review the situation and where possible will provide replacement facilities. We will always put the necessary arrangements in place to ensure our disabled customers are supported at every stage of their journey.

Station entrances

We commit to not permanently close any entrances or gates at our stations if this will result in a reduction in accessibility to any platform or facility. We will always consider the needs of our disabled customers' needs when restricting or temporarily closing access points at our stations.



A.8 Redress

Delivering a railway that enables all passengers to travel with confidence is of critical importance to us. Customers who have not received the level of booked assistance they would reasonably expect can contact us via our customer relations team.

We commit to investigating any complaints, take appropriate action, and we will provide customers with appropriate redress. Where a journey involves multiple train or station operators, we will throughout our investigation liaise with them to provide the customer with a clear response. If the substantive part of the assistance failure is the responsibility of another train operating company (i.e. in cases where the failure took place when travelling with another operator), we will transfer the complaint on to them with the customer's consent.

Our complaint handling procedure sets out further details around what customers can expect from us in the event of things going wrong.

Customers also have the right to contact the Rail Ombudsman (railombudsman.org) to seek further redress if they are not satisfied with our response. Our complaint handling procedure sets out more detail on what customers can expect from us and can be found on our websites, including within our passenger charter.

B. Strategy and management

B.1 Strategy

Our Operational Excellence Director has accountability for accessibility at GTR. This section outlines our strategy to deliver an accessible railway by working constructively with disabled passengers, training and empowering our staff and measuring the success of our Accessible Travel Policy to encourage more disabled people, across the range of disabilities to travel on our services.


B.2 Management arrangements

The provision of support for all our disabled customers has always been an integral part of how we plan and deliver our rail services.

Our whole management and executive team champion accessibility and are supporting the needs of disabled people. The accessibility team is part of the Customer Experience team, led by the Head of Customer Experience. The Head of Accessibility leads our Accessibility team. The team includes our Accessibility Engagement Manager and Accessibility Improvement Manager. As part of the Customer Experience team, they ensure all areas of the business are aware of their responsibilities to disabled people.

The Head of Accessibility is responsible for ensuring that relevant commitments within our franchise to accessible travel are delivered;

- Our Access Advisory Panel - A critical passenger group, representing disabled passengers (See section B3 for details)
- Our Accessibility mystery shopping programme - deploy mystery shoppers representing a range of impairments across our network, typically 30 journeys per quarter (see section B for details)
- Minor Works fund - accessibility fund of c£630k pa to deliver enhancements at stations (see section B4 for details).
- Our Try A Train programme - programme of events to enable groups of disabled people and others who wish to increase their confidence to travel with a journey and event (see section B5 for details).



We have also established an Accessible Travel Programme Steering Group which has representatives from departments across GTR. This group reports into the GTR Customer Experience Group, which is chaired by our Chief Operating Officer.

We also ensure an ongoing focus on delivering accessible services through our growing network of Access Ambassadors - managers and front line staff from across GTR who are passionate about accessibility and take ownership for ensuring excellent, accessible services are implemented within their specific areas.

Our Accessible Travel Policy imports requirements into our operating licence, which is issued by the Office of Rail and Road (ORR). Our Accessibility team have developed a series of systems to monitor compliance across our network and attend regular customer-focussed meetings to provide reports.

B.3 Monitoring & evaluation

We monitor our service to disabled passengers in several ways and use their feedback to improve the services we provide.

Our Accessibility Team uses the methods detailed below to monitor our services and facilities to ensure that they comply with our policy commitments, as a minimum.

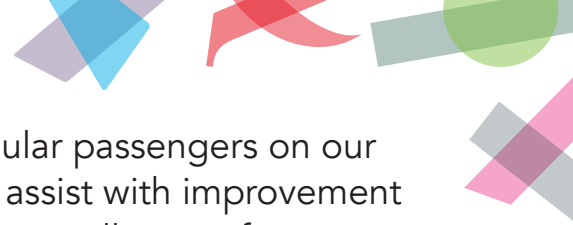
We track all complaints and praise made via Customer Relations or social media and provide periodic reports delivering insight from our passengers across our business.

Our GTR Customer Experience Group considers passenger feedback on many matters and develops plans to improve our services and facilities. Each plan is overseen by an executive member who is responsible for its execution and ensuring individual managers and staff are aware of their areas of accountability. In the case of accessibility improvements, this is the Operational Excellence Director.

We monitor and evaluate performance through many methods;

Access Advisory Panel

The Access Advisory Panel comprises a voluntary group of disabled passengers with a wide spectrum of impairments to support and challenge us in delivering accessible services. The AAP are our critical source of insight in many respects. We meet with our AAP bi-monthly, with frequent interaction and discussion between meetings. They have direct input into our project planning processes, offer best practice and are consulted on all aspects of delivering accessible



services to shape the delivery of those services. As regular passengers on our network, they also provide ongoing journey reports to assist with improvement work. Our AAP also engage with our staff to encourage excellent performance both during their journeys, at panel meetings and station visits. Further details at:

www.southernrailway.com/accesspanel
www.thameslinkrailway.com/accesspanel
www.greatnorthernrail.com/accesspanel
www.gatwickexpress.com/accesspanel

Mystery shopping

We carry out extensive mystery shopping (typically 30 journeys per quarter) where disabled mystery shoppers check the level of service we provide. For each journey, a detailed scored journey is provided to the relevant manager for immediate follow up with the staff concerned. In addition to providing a journey score to assist prioritisation of actions, where relevant, the shoppers also provide a sound or video clip to help clarify the impact the journey had on them (whether good or bad) to assist with follow up actions.

Assisted Travel surveys

For every booking confirmation, we provide a link to a short survey within the booking confirmation to facilitate feedback regarding the booking and journey experience to help us to monitor and continuously improve our performance

Customer complaints

Every complaint is recorded and passed to the relevant manager for investigation to ensure root cause issues are resolved and necessary action taken. All comments and complaints that we receive are categorised so that we can evaluate our performance against each type of complaint.

Regular meetings with industry partners

Key aspects of delivering accessible services such as lift availability are reviewed regularly by our executive team in partnership with Network Rail. These sessions focus on reviewing critical trend information to ensure any existing and emerging risks are visible and timely action is taken. This approach supports joint actions to be identified and taken forward across facilities (e.g. lift provision at all stations serving our customers) and assistance delivery (notably at those Network Rail managed stations which serve our customers).



Industry Data

We use qualitative and quantitative data compiled for industry sources, including the Office of Road and Rail and Passenger Assist to monitor our service.

Quality Experience on Stations and Trains (QuEST) audits

We usually have a team of service quality auditors who carry out regular QuEST audits of customer facilities and service on stations and trains. These cover the availability of equipment and facilities, staff levels, cleanliness, upkeep and repair. We normally audit a minimum of 156 stations and 388 trains each month and report our results to the DfT every month and publish them on our website.

External rail industry surveys

We also use data from external rail industry bodies to evaluate our performance on accessibility issues. Our main source is the National Rail Passenger Survey (NRPS), which measures customer satisfaction and takes place every six months and the Wavelength study. We also run a monthly customer satisfaction survey (CSS) which mirrors the NRPS.

The NRPS and CSS results cover the wider passenger experience and also are broken down by:

- Whether respondents are disabled
- Whether they have booked assistance
- Whether this assistance was delivered to their satisfaction
- Whether the facilities at the station met their needs as a disabled person

B.4 Access improvements

We are committed to ensuring compliance with PRM-TSI and the DfT Accessible Railway Stations: design standards when installing or refurbishing our trains or facilities at our stations. Where compliance is not achievable after every effort possible has been made, we commit to applying for derogations against PRM-TSI and/or the DfT Accessible Railway Stations: design standards.

We commit to spending over £630k per annum through our Accessibility Minor Works fund on a range of projects to enhance accessibility at stations across our route including;

- installation of accessible toilets
- improving drop off areas
- new customer information and public address systems
- improved information desks
- signage enhancements
- automated doors for waiting lounges and booking halls

We will review our Accessible Travel Policy on an annual basis, taking customer feedback into account to make continuous improvements.

We continue to work with NR, DfT, TfL, Local Stakeholders to campaign for significant investment to provide step-free facilities at our stations. The main source of funding is through the Access for All Programme, although GTR engages with other stakeholders to find match contributions to support the cost of scheme design and delivery.

GTR managed stations currently awarded funding (by DfT) to receive step-free access solutions include:

Alexandra Palace, Battersea Park, Biggleswade, Catford, Cricklewood, Crowborough, East Grinstead, Eridge, Finsbury Park, Flitwick, Hertford North, Leatherhead, Luton, Mill Hill Broadway, Palmers Green, Peckham Rye, South Croydon, Streatham, Tooting and Wivelsfield.

B.5 Working with disabled customers, local communities and local authorities

Our Access Advisory Panel provide critical insight on all aspects of providing accessible services, as outlined in Sec B3 (Monitoring and evaluation). Projects that the panel has helped to drive have included the development of industry-leading support tools such as our Communication Guide and Travel Support Card. They also helped us with station developments, including our annual minor works fund, staff training packages, scooter and wheelchair guide and preparation of this Assisted Travel Policy.

We also consult with the following organisations and include their ideas where possible:

- Transport Focus
- London TravelWatch
- Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC)
- Local authorities including access groups
- Self-advocacy groups
- Rail User Groups
- Charities
- Schools and Colleges
- Community Rail Partnerships
- Luton Airport Authority
- Gatwick Airport Limited

We actively seek passenger feedback through monthly Meet the Manager sessions, and our senior managers frequently meet with disabled passengers to gain insight into our ongoing focus on accessible travel.

We also have an ongoing programme of 'Try a Train Events'. These provide an ideal opportunity for those who lack confidence travelling by train to visit our stations and to experience a train journey. The events are aimed at those who have any form of disability or access needs who wish to build their confidence when travelling. The trips are also available to those who may encounter other barriers to travelling, e.g. senior citizens, non-English speakers. During the event, we will tailor the agenda to the group's specific needs and area of interest.



A typical 'Try a Train' consists of;

- Introduction to the station layout including car parking, onward travel and various station facilities
- Overview of ticketing options information available including ticket office, ticket machines and smart cards
- Meet the local station manager and station teams
- A chance to sample a train to a relevant destination of interest

By the end of the trip, our aim is for participants to feel that they have experienced a complete journey that will encourage further travel with confidence, with any anxieties or concerns fully addressed. We have carried out more than 50 events since the programme commenced in April 2016.


There are several key industry partners that we work with to improve the accessibility of our services. Key organisations that represent the interests of customers with disabilities – including the Office for Rail and Road, the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee, the DfT, Transport Focus and London TravelWatch.

We will actively promote the availability of assisted travel, with a particular focus on the customer leaflet, 'Making Rail Accessible'. As well as ensuring this leaflet is available at staffed stations our trains call at, we will via our stakeholder network do all we can to make it available at prominent locations where public services are provided. We will also advertise the leaflet on station posters, and via social media.

B.6 Staff training

We know that staff training is of critical importance in removing barriers to access. Therefore, we have made disability equality training mandatory for all new members of staff who join the company. We also train our existing frontline staff on how to assist disabled passengers. Key parts of the training are delivered by disabled facilitators whenever possible.

The current training is composed of several modules to provide our staff with the skills to meet the needs of customers and to be able to provide excellent service for disabled customers. This training is delivered in accordance with both legislation and our focus on enabling everyone to access our network with confidence.




The training covers legislation such as the Equality Act 2010, as well as practical exercises on how to assist and communicate with passengers from across the spectrum of disabilities. It is designed to deliver the nine training outcomes outlined by the ORR within their ATP Policy guidance;

- 1. Understanding disabled people and their everyday challenges:** challenging misconceptions and understanding barriers to access and inclusion.
- 2. Equality Legislation:** exploring and understanding the Equality Act 2010.
- 3. Defining Disability:** an introduction to the various definitions of disability and the appropriate terminology.
- 4. Recognising passengers who need assistance:** exploring physical and non-physical impairments to enable staff to assess individual needs and provide appropriate assistance.
- 5. Railway Regulatory Framework:** understanding regulations and policies that are relevant within the railway industry.
- 6. Passenger Assist:** how it works for disabled passengers and the role of railway staff in delivering the service.
- 7. Communication:** finding a way to communicate with disabled people with patience, respect and dignity.
- 8. Accessibility in stations:** the identification of accessible features at the stations where staff work as well as at the key destination stations on our network.
- 9. Providing safe assistance:** Staff aware of their duty to ensure staff and passengers remain safe at all times.

Our Access Advisory Panel also have a crucial role in reviewing our training materials on an ongoing basis. We use customer voices films to show what disabled customers expect when travelling with us. These films also raise awareness of what impact they have on the lives of disabled customers.

Role-specific training

Front line staff also receive job-specific training on a local basis, including local procedures and facilities relevant to assisting passengers such as using station wheelchairs, lift facilities, induction loops and practical training such as deploying manual boarding ramps. We track the training records continuously.



We produce a series of staff briefings that contain set procedures and advice on how to help passengers who need assistance. These are available to front line teams via an online library to ensure that they always have access to up to date content.

Our Passenger Assist call centre staff receive role-specific training which we provide in-house (disability equality training) and through specialist call centre trainers (software and process training).

For many roles at the stations, we use additional staff employed by agencies. The agencies are provided with the same training material as our own staff and keep a record of training delivery.

Assisted Travel Team

Our Assisted Travel team are also extensively briefed on accessibility awareness and receive appropriate refresher training. They are closely supported by our accessibility managers who regularly update them on any relevant information that may impact on accessible services such as any changes to our timetable or service alterations.

Future Plans

By 31 July 2021, all new staff at all levels of the company, including senior managers, will receive disability equality training that delivers the mandatory training outcomes 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 (as described above).

We will continue to ensure that all front line staff who interact directly with passengers at any time as part of their duties will receive accessibility training that delivers the mandatory outcomes 1–9.

We will also ensure that all staff will receive refresher training within two years of receipt of accessibility awareness training, and as a minimum of 2 years after that to ensure the mandatory training outcomes described above are maintained. We will use the various measures outlined in Section B2 (such as mystery shopping) to make sure that the required outcomes are being consistently delivered.

We recognise the importance of ensuring that any agency or contract staff providing services to passengers are able to support disabled passengers. Where reasonably practicable, we will ensure that any agency or contract staff employed on a temporary basis who provide services to passengers receive an appropriate level of accessibility awareness training which as a minimum delivers areas 6, 7 and 9 in the ORR mandatory training outcomes.



Any staff employed at a contact centre who provides information or advice directly to customers, whether directly employed or not, will receive appropriate accessibility awareness training that delivers outcomes 6 and 7 in the ORR training guidance.

Similarly, wherever reasonably practicable, we will include the requirement for drivers of rail replacement taxis and buses to receive appropriate accessibility awareness training within contractual discussions.

We will continue to develop training materials with input from disabled people through our extensive network of groups who provide insight and share experiences, including our Access Advisory Panel. We will also continue to monitor the experiences of disabled passengers through these groups as well as through our mystery shopping programme and other methods outlined in section B3 (Monitoring & Evaluation).

We provide ORR with an annual overview of our relevant staff training, including the training schedule and numbers of staff who have received it. At the time of submitting our Accessible Travel Policy, we will ensure that all statistics, legislation and language used in training are up to date.

We regularly report to the ORR setting out progress against delivery of these staff training commitments.



WE'RE WITH YOU

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Joan Walsh
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Horley, Surrey RH6 7HZ
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info@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
www.horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk



Night Flights Consultation
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

By email: night.flights@dft.gov.uk

1 March 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

Stage 1 Consultation on the proposal to maintain the existing night flight restrictions for the designated airports (Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted) from 2022 to 2024, and the proposal to ban QC4 rated aircraft movements during the night quota period (23:30 to 06:00).

The town of Horley is located on the north side of Gatwick Airport with a shared boundary in places so can be indirectly and directly affected by aircraft noise. It is somewhat protected by a regulation in the AIP that aircraft departing from Gatwick must not overfly the town. Our southern neighbourhoods are likely to be the most affected by arrivals on westerly operations and departures on easterly operations but neither fly directly overhead.

The Town Council's Planning and Development Committee, at its meeting on the 16th of February, considered the above consultation; in particular the Department of Transport's [DfT] proposal to extend the current night flight regime to October 2022.

Whilst we are concerned that this is yet another extension, like many introduced over the past years, the Committee agreed to support the proposal. The possibility of the current regulations lapsing leading to there being no regulation of night flights at Gatwick is not acceptable to the Town Council.

The Council supports the proposal to ban QC4 aircraft in the night quota period excepting any dispensations however we understand that Gatwick Airport is discussing a voluntary ban effective from October 2021 and we welcome their pro-active position on this matter.

It is to be hoped that in the intervening two years the DfT will undertake exhaustive research on the benefits and disbenefits of night flights on economic grounds and the health impacts to the Horley's residents.

We trust our comments will be taken into consideration.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Joan Walsh'.

Town Clerk

