

DSG(2020)C042

Chris Connelly  
Managing Director  
Direct Rail Services Ltd  
Regents Court,  
Baron Way,  
Carlisle  
CA6 4SJ

Caithness Chamber of Commerce  
Naver Business Centre,  
Naver House,  
Naver Road,  
Thurso,  
Caithness  
KW14 7QA

27/08/2020

Dear Trudy,

I wanted to write to you personally as soon as I had more information regarding the commercial trial at Georgemas. It is, however, with deep regret that I have to inform you that we will have to delay until spring 2021.

I understand how disappointing this must be but we are not yet in a position to allow visitors on to our sites due to the risk of Covid-19. There are a large number of parties which need to be present in order for the trial to take place and we must prioritise everyone's safety.

Safety is at the core of everything DRS does and I could not expose any of our employees, partners or visitors to an increased risk of contracting this illness.

As we are also entering our busiest time of the year, when the Rail Head Treatment Trains begin to run, I must ensure we can complete our vital role of keeping the lines clear for everyone who uses the railway during autumn.

I do not want to set a date where the weather may cause the trial to be delayed which is why I am proposing spring 2021. I would like to reiterate Direct Rail Services' commitment to this trial and my commitment to it, we will all be working to set a firm date as soon as is practically possible.

I share your frustration that the trial was only a matter of days away before we had to react to the threat of Covid-19.



Georgemas is a vital part of DRS' operations and we value the fantastic work of the Caithness Chamber of Commerce and the people of Caithness for their continued support.

I would also like to thank you all for your continued patience and commitment to work with DRS.

If you have any comments or questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Connelly".

Chris Connelly, Managing Director

