TIMETABLING SUB-COMMITTEE

Determination No. 19

(Hearing held at Euston House on 18th October 1996)

The Timetabling Committee was asked to consider a reference by South Wales & West drawing attention to the fact that, at the time of receipt of offers at the end of the first iteration of the development of the Summer 1997 Timetable, it had received insufficient information as to the offers made to other Train Operators on the routes on which it has Access Rights.

South Wales & West claimed that, as an operator whose business is heavily dependant on connections to/from other Operators services, it was disadvantaged in being unable to ascertain whether suitable offers had been made to give effect to the connections, in sufficient time before the 7 days permitted for lodging an appeal had elapsed.

The Committee has been advised by Railtrack that the information distributed to Train Operators when offers are made at the conclusion of a Decision Period fulfils two objectives:

- 1. To form the offer to each Train Operator.
- 2. To form the Bidding Information for the next iteration.

The Committee noted that the latter is effectively the complete set of offers made to all Operators.

Railtrack has given an undertaking that in future it will distribute this information in accordance with the timescales at the end of the Decision Period. South Wales & West Railway has indicated that this would satisfy its requirements and would remove the objections which it had voiced through the reference.

Notwithstanding this undertaking from Railtrack, the Committee wishes to encourage Train Operators to enter into mutual dialogue with Operators of potential connecting services.

In the event that Railtrack fail to provide information by the end of the Decision Period, the Committee wishes to remind any Bidder that, in accordance with Condition D5.1, it has a period of 7 days from the receipt of a decision from Railtrack to refer the matter to the Committee for determination.

Bryan Driver Chairman of the Committee 18th October 1996