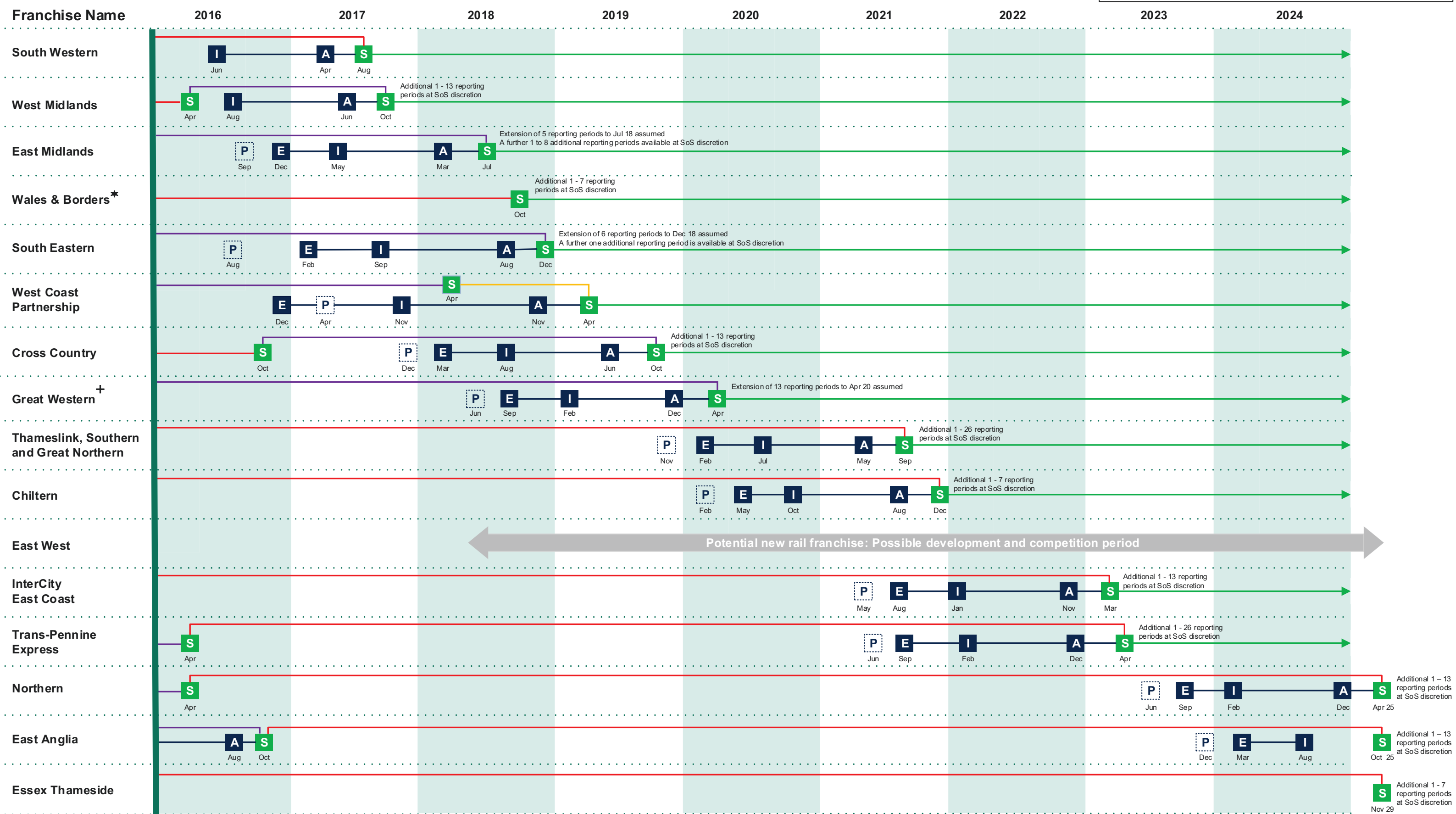


Rail Franchise Schedule

P	PQQ Passport Application Date (Deadline for non-passport holders)	—	Current Franchise
E	Issue of Franchise EOI	—	Direct Award - Contract signed
I	ITT (Invitation to Tender) Issued to Shortlisted Bidders	—	Service Continuation Contract
A	Contract Award	—	New Franchise
S	End of current Franchise Agreement Start of new Franchise Agreement	—	Key Deliverable process link



* The UK Government has agreed in principle to transfer franchising powers to the Welsh Government who are leading and undertaking the procurement of the next Wales and Borders Franchise.
 + The Department is exploring a range of delivery options for the Great Western Franchise with the aim of closer integration of track and train. The Department will continue to consider options for the GW Franchise in 2017.