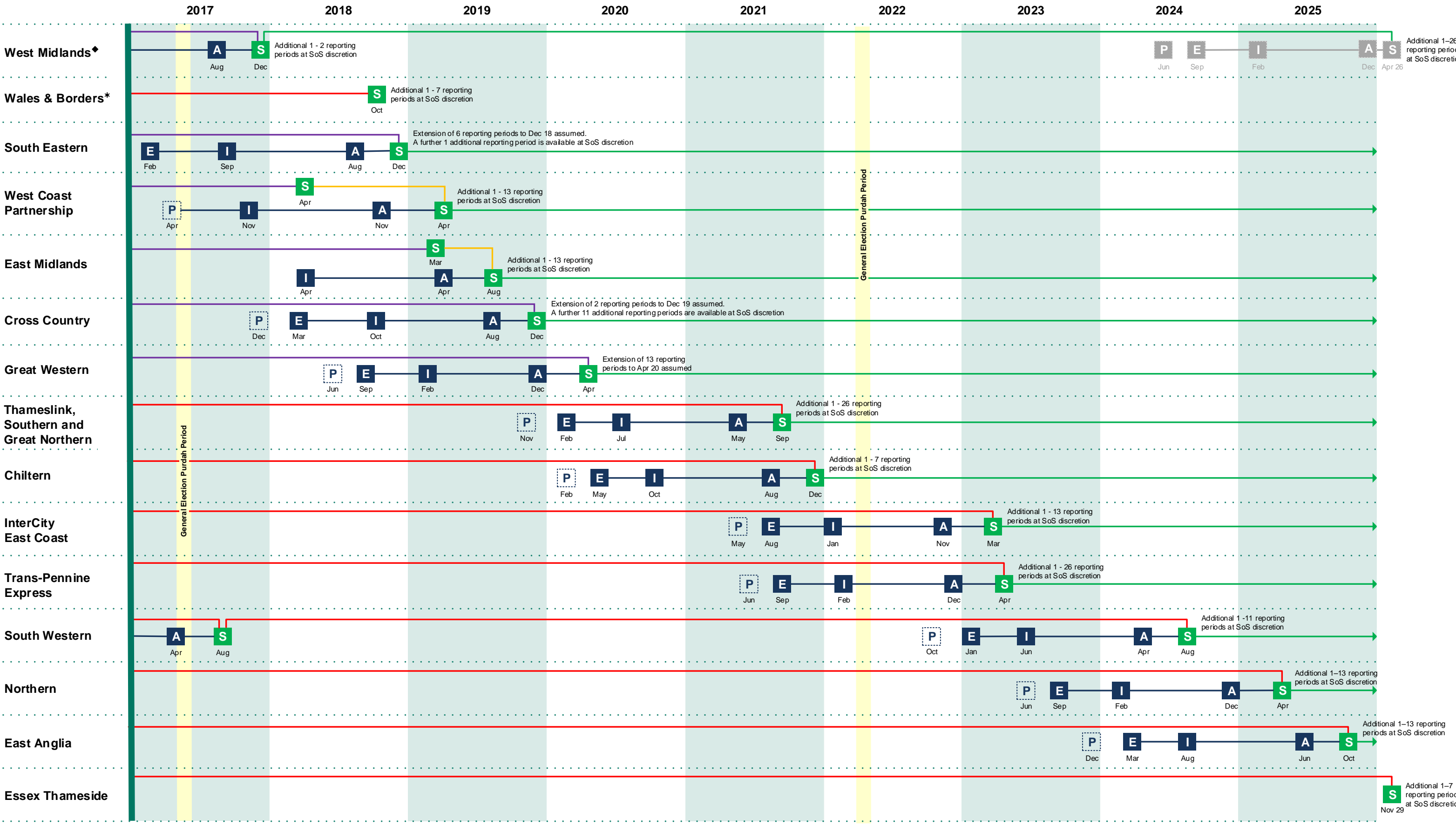


# Rail Franchise Schedule

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



◆ The grey milestones indicates the potential future competition timescales based on the published ITT contract lengths.  
 \* 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.