

# Rail Delivery Group

## Summary of Proceedings 19 July 2011

### Present

Tim O'Toole (Chairman)  
David Higgins (vice-Chairman)  
David Brown  
Bob Holland  
Elaine Holt  
Nigel Jones  
Peter Maybury  
Paul Plummer  
Anton Valk  
Graham Smith (Secretary)  
Michael Roberts  
Sir Roy McNulty

### Proposed Priorities for the Rail Delivery Group

During an extensive discussion the Group considered the recommendations made the Rail Value for Money Study and other issues that the industry was facing to inform its thinking on the priorities to be pursued by the Group

### Agreed Priorities for the Rail Delivery Group

The Group took the view that establishing leadership and credibility was a priority but that this would be achieved through behaviour, communication and demonstrating progress with other priorities. After further discussion the Group agreed the following priorities:

- Asset, programme and supply chain management recognising the efficiency potential highlighted in the Rail Value for Money Study and the relevance to the significant capital programme over the next few years;
- To look at the opportunity for a revised form of industry commercial agreements that would remove barriers to efficiency;
- Examine technology and innovation opportunities;
- Passenger information building on current industry activity; and
- Train Utilisation in response to the challenge posed by the Rail Value for Money Study; and
- Identify the actions that others must take to enable the industry to improve efficiency. These would build on the recommendations in the Rail Value for Money Study.

## **Passenger Information**

The Group noted the report of the meeting with the ORR and re-iterated the importance of timely and accurate passenger information in the event of disruption. RDG reiterated its concern that there was not a full appreciation of the financial and contractual consequences of the ORR's proposals.

## **Initial Industry Plan**

Rail Delivery Group noted the draft documentation relating to the Initial Industry Plan. The Group acknowledged that the Plan was an early demonstration of the industry working together.

During discussion it was recognised that the IIP's section on efficiency would be particularly important. RDG repeated its wish for the IIP to contain a chapter that described the RDG's emerging thinking and the priorities that it was adopting.

The Group felt there should be a greater emphasis on the benefits from the Plan to the passenger and freight shipper in areas such as punctuality, reliability and safety.

## **Communications Plan**

The Group agreed that once it had decided to pursue a particular initiative or to take a specific action a communication plan should be produced on that topic.

The Group agreed that it should not comment on incidents or issues relating to individual member companies of RDG.

After discussion the Group agreed that the best way of communicating with the industry, stakeholders and funders would be through a forum held every six months.

## **Rail Systems Agency**

RDG noted the progress achieved by the Working Group that had been set up to examine the proposal by the Rail Value for Money Study for a Rail Systems Agency. The Working Group was using case studies to understand problems with the current arrangements and to determine what success looked like.