

Rail Delivery Group

Summary of Proceedings 27 January 2015

Present

Martin Griffiths (Chair) (Stagecoach)
Mark Carne (Deputy Chair) (Network Rail)
Michael Roberts (Director-General) (RDG)
Dominic Booth (Abellio)
David Brown (Go-Ahead)
Chris Burchell (Arriva)
Andrew Chivers (National Express)
Alistair Gordon (Keolis)
Jeremy Long (MTR)
Peter Maybury (Freightliner)
Tim O'Toole (First Group)
Paul Plummer (Network Rail)
Doug Sutherland (Directly Operated Railways)
Alain Thauvette (DBSchenker)
Phil Whittingham (Virgin)

Apologies

David Stretch (Serco)

In attendance

George Lynn (RDG)
Edward Welsh (RDG)
Billy Denyer (RDG, minutes)

Approval of the record/progress on action points from the meeting on 18th December

The minutes of the RDG meeting on 18th December were agreed to be an accurate record.

Director-General's report and RDG Workstream Activity Report

MR highlighted the items on security and DPPP's in his Director-General's report. On the latter, there had been considerable concern about the cost impacts associated with the ORR's new interpretation of the current DPPP's (Disabled Persons Protection Policies). Members raised points about other areas of ORR activity and asked MR to follow up with ORR.

In addition, MR informed members that the Autumn 2014 National Rail Passenger Survey results had been released by Passenger Focus that day, revealing a two percentage point reduction in overall satisfaction year on year.

A proposed acquisition of The Trainline by private equity firm KKR was also briefly discussed.

The workstream updates were briefly discussed. Members supported AC's role as Chair of the franchise design review group, and agreed to identify Owing Group representatives for the group. AC advised that the existing Franchise Strategy Group will identify franchising priorities which will then be considered by the review group. On Information and Ticketing, DAB commented that ATOC Commercial Board is addressing the key issues that arose in the recent TVM summit with Claire Perry MP.

MG flagged that the ORR's remit will soon be expanding to include roads, and also alerted members to upcoming devolution of transport policing in Scotland.

Christmas engineering overruns

MC apologised for the engineering overruns at Christmas, acknowledging that they were unacceptable and tarnished the industry's reputation. He advised that Network Rail are applying absolute scrutiny to every upcoming possession and are fully aware that the extensive Easter engineering programme must run smoothly.

TO'T described the upcoming APSCM review into timing of engineering work, which will consult the industry and draw upon APSCM work. The review is being led by Anton Valk, Christopher Garnett, Graham Smith and Robin Gisby, and will be published in late-March. MC agreed to circulate details of the Easter works so that members could report back at the February RDG meeting that their teams (where relevant) would be fully prepared with regard to the above issues.

Passenger Information During Disruption – Industry Action Plan

CB provided an update on PIDD. The RDG sub group, PIDD Programme Board and external stakeholders had refined the industry action plan and this was now presented to RDG for endorsement.

Members endorsed the PIDD action plan.

On-board mobile connectivity update

AG provided an update on developments regarding on-board mobile connectivity. Oliver Letwin had asked RDG, with the assistance of Ofcom, to identify a range of solutions.

Following a recent government-industry meeting at the Cabinet Office, the favoured emerging approach is to enhance on-board voice and data connectivity by:

- Using the ring-fenced £53m Network Rail fine to part fund on-board wifi
- Using Ofcom's engagement with MNOs to improve general UK coverage
- Costing measures to tackle "notspots" on the rail network

The next stage is for an agreed solution to be endorsed and an industry-government project management team to be put in place.

Communications update

EW provided an update on various strands of communications activity:

- The tendering process for the national reputational campaign is progressing;
- The RDG Industry Day is taking place on 3rd February; ;

- The industry narrative has now been road-tested and it was agreed that the launch should take place as planned.

Performance update

CB summarised Period 10 performance, which was better year-on-year (though against a low 2014 base), whilst Temporary Speed Restrictions were also moving in the right direction. However, he stressed that the PPM Moving Annual Average is still below target and that the London and South East area (particularly London Bridge where lessons must be learned) is providing the greatest cause for concern..

RDG budget 2015/16

GL presented draft upper and lower RDG budgets in 2015/16, covering fixed operating costs and variable workstream project costs. Members noted that ATOC budget setting is currently taking place and requested visibility of the proposed ATOC budget.

Any other business

DAB alerted members to the paper for noting on Network Rail Freedom Of Information requests.