

Action points from the Rail Delivery Group meeting on

24 November 2015

ATOC/RDG Offices, London

Present

Martin Griffiths (Chair)
Mark Carne (Deputy Chair)
Chris Burchell
Andrew Chivers
Russell Mears
Steve Montgomery
Paul Plummer
Alain Thauvette
Patrick McCall
David Brown
Jeremy Long
Dominic Booth

In attendance

George Lynn (ATOC)
Edward Welsh (RDG)
Billy Denyer (RDG, minutes)
Lindsay Bleakley (RDG, Minutes)

Apologies

David Stretch
Alistair Gordon

15.070 Approval of the record/progress on action points from the meeting on 25th October

The minutes of the RDG meeting on 25th October were accepted as a true record. Progress on other actions was noted.

15.071 Chairman's Report and Workstream updates

MG noted the importance of the topics on the agenda, particularly the Shaw Review. NS is keen to engage with RDG and encouraged members to take up the opportunity and be constructive with feedback. MG has committed to meet NS with both an RDG and a Stagecoach hat on.

PP has noted lots of enthusiasm within RDG/ATOC but lack of clarity within the organisation. Key recurring discussions include the Hendy review, the need to remove uncertainty regarding industry direction, the security agenda, fares and ticketing, and the spending review.

MC discussed NR plans to raise funding through property sales whilst JL asked whether DfT had confirmed their financial commitment, and PP agreed to investigate this further.

NS had requested that TOCs share salary information. DAB discussed informality around the approach to asking for the information. He expressed that if salary information is going to be shared, it should be shared in a structured way. MC encouraged members to share this information, whilst DAB advised that the data collection must be structured. GC will establish what NS requires and coordinate the request for information in a formal and structured way.

On the workstream updates, DAB reported that labelling of TVMs was now complete and that all TOCs had published their Key Transparency Indicators (KTIs).

Action: Members to engage with Nicola Shaw on her Network Rail review.

Action: PP to find out more information about DfT's financial commitment to the industry.

Action: GC to lead on the collation of TOC pay information for the Shaw Review team.

15.072 RDG priorities and ways of working

PP presented his paper on RDG priorities and ways of working. Members endorsed PP's proposal for the structure of RDG meetings, but felt that RDG needs stronger engagement with DfT, ORR and RSG. However, full membership would change the nature of the meeting, so quarterly attendance for relevant parts of the meeting was considered a possible solution. There was strong agreement that HS2 should be invited to become members of RDG, and possibly HS1.

Action: PP to seek input from members regarding engagement with DfT, ORR and RSG to feed into the Communications and Engagement portfolio (at January RDG).

Action: PP to follow up with Simon Kirby on HS2 membership of RDG.

15.073 Strategic Portfolio: Industry Reform

Members discussed the reform portfolio paper, specifically noting that the industry needs greater clarity of purpose and consistency. There are many political issues that are undecided and need to be resolved in order to provide that clarity.

PP asked whether the structure, governance and attendance at CRRWG and FSG is optimal. Members agreed that there should continue to be separate groups

Action: PP and AC to refine thoughts around structure and governance of groups in the reform portfolio.

Action: Members to consider their organisations' representation on RDG workstreams and send proposed changes to PP.

15.074 Shaw review

PP introduced the Shaw Review response paper highlighting that the tone had changed, although the general substance had not. In general the paper is supportive of Network Rail devolution, but notes a range of views about the pace and extent of further changes required.

Members discussed Network Rail's plans for devolution of control to route level governance with the centre providing core support services. MC noted that the centre defines broad parameters and the routes decide how to operate within that. Members questioned whether the plans would attract investors if the centre was still holding control. Several members felt that routes must be run as businesses in their own right, where accountability and responsibility is at route level. MC asserted that was what Network Rail are trying to achieve. Members explored the issue in more detail, considering the privatisation of utility services and London Buses, and the UKFI, as alternative models, and the various funding options available.

Members agreed that PP should streamline the paper to make a more passing reference to Network Rail's proposals and emphasise the range of views regarding the pace and extent of change.

Action: PP to discuss Shaw Review options bilaterally with members.

Action: PP to revise the Shaw review paper and recirculate to members.

Action: Members to support the RDG submission, recognising that they will express a range of views in their own submissions to Shaw.

Action: Members to share individual business submissions or intelligence with the RDG/ATOC executive for information so that the group can be kept informed as appropriate.

Action: PP to circulate an update attendance list for the Shaw review workshops.

15.076 Forward Agenda

PP asked whether the December meeting should go ahead. Members agreed that the meeting should go ahead as planned, but if people can't make it then it could be held by telephone.

Action: PP to contact members regarding availability for the 22 December RDG, which will be held at Network Rail.

15.077 Any other business

None