

# Rail Delivery Group

## Summary of Proceedings 15 August 2012

### Present

Tim O'Toole (Chairman)  
Andrew Chivers  
Michael Holden  
Bob Holland  
Jeff Hoogesteger  
Peter Maybury  
Paul Plummer  
Alain Thauvette  
Graham Smith (Secretary)  
Michael Roberts

### In attendance

Chris Burchell  
Jerry England  
Steve Yianni (to present the draft Rail Technical Strategy)

The Chairman welcomed Jeff Hoogesteger to his first meeting in his role as Alternate for Abellio.

### Technical Strategy Leadership Group (TSLG) Update

#### (a) Rail Technical Strategy (RTS)

Steve Yianni (Chair of TSLG) presented the latest draft of the RTS. He commented that the RTS was expected to be published in December 2012. The RTS would be accessible to a wide audience. It would focus on growth and incorporate the benefits of longer franchises. It was essential that the RTS was integrated with other parts of the industry. The key themes in the RTS were

- Control, command and communication;
- Energy;
- Infrastructure;
- Rolling Stock;
- Information; and
- Customer experience.

During discussions the following points were made and Steve Yianni was asked to take them into account as the RTS was finalised:

- A need to prioritise the proposals;
- The importance of making the RTS accessible to non-technical readers;
- The RTS should be reviewed and refreshed on a regular basis as lessons were learnt from mistakes and blind alleys;
- The importance of converting strategic research into concrete plans given that some of the proposals in the RTS anticipated delivery within two control periods;
- Engagement with industry commentators was an essential part of the communications process;
- The need to demonstrate how industry planning work was pulling technical innovation; and
- The importance of quantifying the size of the prize on each of the proposals to assist in prioritisation of resources.

#### The Rail Delivery Group

- Endorsed the approach being taken in the RTS and asked to be kept informed of progress;
- Agreed that the RTS should include a foreword by the Chairman of RDG; and
- Agreed that RDG's working groups should identify the proposals in the RTS that would assist their work

#### **(b) Innovation**

RDG noted that although the headline funding in HLOS was around £160m this included CP6 preparatory funding and money for HS2 and that the remaining innovation funding was only £50m compared with the £150m requested.

RDG agreed that it should press for additional innovation funding.

#### **Asset, Programme and Supply-Chain Management Working Group**

##### **(a) Access planning**

The workstream was developing as a reference group. The need to align it with asset policy and specification was recognised as was the importance of possession productivity.

##### **(b) Cost of contingency**

There was a need for a mechanism to secure engagement where franchises were coming to an end.

##### **(c) Workbank planning**

A detailed presentation would be made at the next APSCM meeting.

##### **(d) Major projects**

The working group continued to investigate ways to find value for money opportunities in major projects.

## **Technology, Innovation and Working Practices**

It had not been possible to meet the Trade Unions on the date originally planned and a revised date was being sought.

## **Contractual and Regulatory Reform Working Group**

Progress was being made with ORR about complexity and alliancing but a response to RDG's letter had not been received. The ORR would be pressed further on trade-offs. There would be further engagement with the freight community on freight charges.

The next meeting of the working group would consider the dispute resolution process.

RDG noted that the ORR would attend the 10 September RDG meeting.

## **Industry Planning Working Group**

Network Rail would present its CP5 plans to RDG at future meetings. RDG expressed concern at the lack of transparency regarding the underlying assumptions in the SoFA about TOC efficiencies.

RDG noted the programme of work to develop the Industry SBP, supported attendance from RDG Members' companies at the proposed workshops; and agreed to nominate authors from each RDG working group for the development of narrative for the industry SBP.

## **Formalisation of RDG**

The ORR Consultation had been published and responses were due by 14 September. Work continued on producing the legal documentation.

## **Rolling Stock**

A wider group set up to consider rolling stock issues had held its first meeting where the focus had been on resources and programming.

## **National Task Force (NTF)**

NTF was focusing on the London & South East performance plan. Initial responses to the biennial review of NTF were positive.

## **RSSB Update**

Two meetings of the strategic review group had taken place

## **Train Utilisation**

RDG's work on train utilisation would be presented to the Department for Transport

