



ORR Road Expert Panel meeting

13 February 2020, 1300 to 1615

25 Cabot Square, London

Agenda

1300 to 1305	Welcome and declarations of interest
1305 to 1315	Update from the highways team
1315 to 1355	Topic 1 – Evaluation of major schemes
1355 to 1435	Topic 2 – Road user safety
1435 to 1455	Break
1445 to 1525	Topic 3 – Local roads and the major road network
1525 to 1605	Topic 4 – Future proofing the network
1605 to 1615	AOB

Welcome and declarations of interest

Richard Coates welcomed the panel to the meeting and asked for any declarations of interest, one panel member declared they are a trustee of the Road Safety Foundation, which is applicable to Topic 2.

Update from the highways team

Richard Coates updated the panel on ORR's recent consultation on holding Highways England to account, the recent road safety seminar held at ORR, and how ORR continues to work closely on preparations for the Second Road Investment Strategy.

Evaluation of major schemes

The Highways team gave an overview of the post opening project evaluations (POPEs) that Highways England produce 1 year and 5 years after the scheme had opened to traffic. The panel agreed that the POPEs are very comprehensive and are of a better quality than similar organisations. The panel thought about how the POPEs could be best used within Highways England and externally.

Road User Safety

The Highways team introduced the panel to the current safety performance of Highways England. The panel then discussed the safety targets for Highways England, the behaviour of drivers and the current role of ORR with regards to safety.

Local roads and the major road network

The panel discussed the interface between the Strategic Road Network and the Major Road Network. The panel remarked that Highways England are better at collaborating with Local Authorities compared to its predecessor, the Highways Agency, and that some relationships between Highways England and Sub National Transport Bodies were more developed than others.

Future proofing the network

The Highways team went through the future trends affecting the Strategic Road Network. The panel discussed electrification of vehicles, open data and how other monitors and regulators have dealt with technology change.