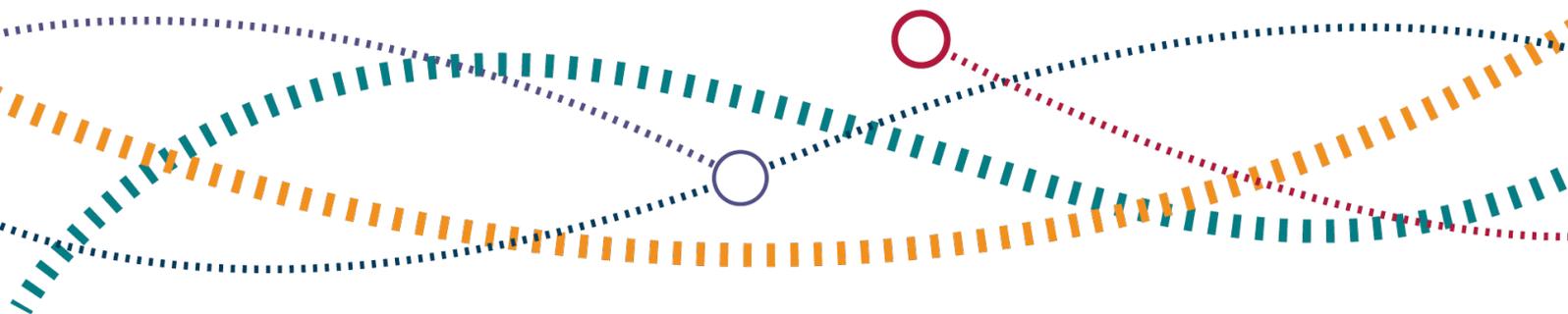


Road Expert Panel

30 March 2023

Hybrid meeting: 25 Cabot Square, London and online Virtual Meeting on Teams

1030	Welcome, setup, and declarations of interest
1040	Introduction to annual assessment
1050	Area of focus 1: environment
1115	Area of focus 2: enhancements
1145	Break
1220	Area of focus 3: asset management
1245	Area of focus 4: efficiency
1310	Summary of discussion
1320	AOB and close



Welcome, setup, and declarations of interest

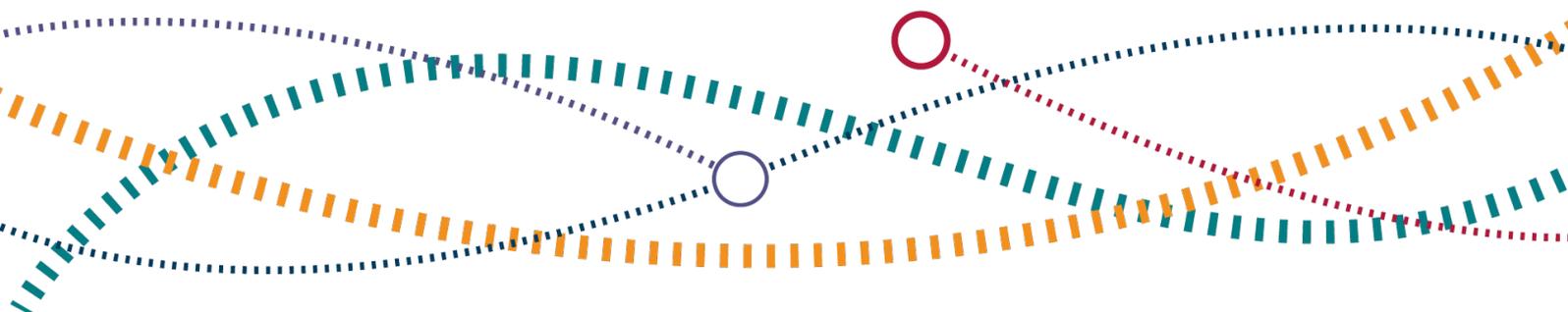
1. ORR welcomed panel members.
2. There were no declarations of interest from members.

Key messages for ORR's annual assessment of National Highways' performance in 2022-23

3. As part of its MoU with DfT, ORR is required to produce an annual report, assessing the performance and efficiency of National Highways. ORR explained that it intended to produce a clear, evidence-based report of the company's performance for 2022-23. The report would be published in July 2023 with a focus on four key areas: environment, enhancements, asset management and efficiency.
4. Safety, including safety on smart motorways, would not be one of the key areas of focus as this would be reported on separately in the annual safety report due in December 2023. This would be explained in the annual assessment.
5. ORR asked if the areas of focus were the right ones or others should be included, if the tone was right and for any views on the priority of the key messages.
6. Panel members said that it would be good to set out the context for this assessment, in that it has been a difficult environment for National Highways with delays relating to inflation, the level of challenge to development consent orders (DCOs) and environmental concerns.

Areas of focus

7. The panel discussed whether the four areas of focus were right for this year's annual assessment and whether any other areas of focus should be included.
8. For each proposed area of focus the panel considered National Highways' performance over 2022-23 and ORR's high level view of this performance. Panel members advised on the tone of the assessment, the aspects of each subject to be highlighted and what points needed to be clearly explained.
9. The panel recognised that National Highways had been impacted by events beyond its control over the year but supported ORR's approach of assessing not only what was directly within the company's control but also if it was adequately prepared for unforeseen events and if it had responded appropriately when they happened.



10. The panel encouraged ORR to use the assessment to set the scene for what it expects of National Highways in future years.

Summary of discussion

11. ORR thanked the panel members for their input and summarised the main points from the discussion.

Any other business

12. No other business.



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