



National Union of Rail, Maritime & Transport Workers

RMT response to the ORR consultation on Network Rail's output framework for 2014-19

1. Introduction

As a trade union representing thousands of Network Rail workers, the National Union of Rail, Maritime & Transport Workers is concerned that the Office for Rail Regulations proposals for Network Rail's output framework may lead to a reduction in safety standards within Network Rail.

2. Concerns

- RMT notes safety is absent from the proposed principles the ORR wish to achieve on the railway. RMT believes that safety should be a key principle and a key objective for the ORR.
- We welcome the commitment to tackle level crossings.
- Additionally, we welcome the emphasis placed on red zone working but are deeply concerned that no discussions have taken place between the ORR, NR and the Union to date.
- The absence of a safety metric/safety output is of major concern to RMT. Furthermore, the Union is shocked at the absence of any data on the safety metric for CP4 and whether it was met or not.
- RMT does not believe that EU Common Safety Targets are an appropriate alternative to a safety metric
- In relation to the Whole Industry Scorecard, RMT is appalled that safety is absent from the scorecard. Additionally the lack of reference to investment or accessibility is also of concern.
- The statements regarding reducing disruption due to engineering works are not sufficiently detailed. RMT looks forward to discussing this further with the ORR and Network Rail.

3. Conclusion

RMT believes that safety should be of paramount importance in Network Rail's output framework for 2014-19 and we are available to further discuss our concerns with ORR.