Dear Andrew

Network Rail’s response to ORR’s consultation on the formalisation of the Rail Delivery Group

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to ORR’s consultation on proposals to support the Rail Delivery Group (RDG) through the implementation of new conditions in licences held by Network Rail and train operators. We can confirm that no part of our response is confidential and we are content for it to be published in full.

RDG is an important driver for improving efficiency and for providing strong leadership to Britain’s rail industry. Network Rail is fully committed in its membership of the group and welcomes the Government’s support of RDG in its Command Paper of 8 March 2012.

Network Rail therefore supports the proposals outlined in ORR’s consultation document. We believe that formalisation of the group is essential for RDG’s development into a leadership role that will help the industry to meet the needs of passengers, freight customers and taxpayers. We are in full agreement with the comments provided by RDG in its formal response of 30 July 2012 and as such we do not propose to repeat those comments in this response.

Network Rail supports the introduction of the new licence condition. As you will be aware accepting modifications to our network licence is a matter which is reserved for our Board. We will therefore respond to ORR’s statutory conclusion on this matter when it is issued in the autumn.

Yours sincerely

Jon Haskins
Head of Regulatory Compliance & Reporting