

Keeping Britain's railways safe

The Office of Rail and Road is the independent safety and economic regulator for Britain's railways and monitor of Highways England

What we do



ORR inspectors spend most of their time out on the rail network

Identify and monitor trends in health and safety performance



We improve health and safety practices by informing development of new laws

Check and approve safety systems and license train drivers



Who we regulate



Network Rail



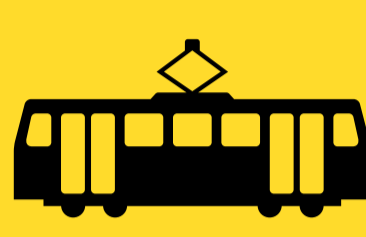
Passenger and freight train operators



Rail industry supply chain



Heritage railways

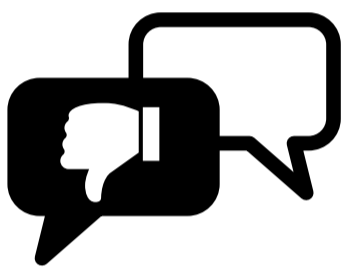


Trams

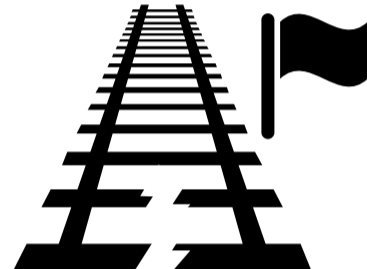


Metros

How we ensure a safer railway



Investigate accidents, incidents and complaints



Proactively help rail companies identify and manage health and safety risks



Use our Risk Management Maturity Model (RM3) to assess an organisation's ability to control health and safety risks and define best practice



Help develop new laws. Review current laws to cut red tape.

Inspection focus is on key safety themes



Level crossings



Passenger safety



Rail workers



Infrastructure



Occupational health (everyone benefits from better worker health and wellbeing - the individuals themselves, the companies they work for, and the travelling public).

Our aim is firm and fair enforcement of health and safety law and our inspectors take action in many ways:



Provide verbal and written advice to improve practices



Issue clear improvement notices with deadlines for change



Revoke safety certificates



Issue prohibition notices to stop work immediately until safety issues are addressed



Criminal prosecutions against companies/individuals breaching the law. These can result in large fines and even prison sentences.

Moving health and safety forward

To meet the challenges of growth and change, our focus for industry is:



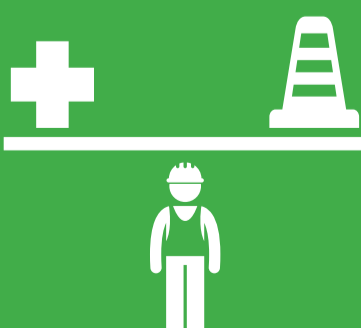
Take a proactive approach to managing health and safety



Deliver a sustainable maintenance programme



Use opportunities at design stage to lower risks



Treat worker health on a par with safety



Share innovation and best practice



Improve risk management maturity and ensure succession planning