

**Ian Prosser**  
**HM Chief Inspector of Railways**  
Railway Safety Directorate



20 December 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Sandilands RAIB report workshop**

RAIB's report into the November 2016 Sandilands accident makes far-reaching recommendations for the whole sector and ORR as its regulator. We recognise implementation of many of the recommendations needs to be coordinated on an industry-wide basis and feel it is appropriate for ORR (as owner of two of the recommendations and given our legal responsibilities in relation to all RAIB recs) to facilitate the initial cross-industry collaboration.

We are therefore inviting all UK tram operators and owners to a meeting to discuss options and timescales for the implementation of the recommendations on 22 January 2018, 11.00-16.00 at the ORR office in Manchester. The address is ORR, 7th Floor, Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

A joint meeting will help us all come to a common understanding of the scope and deliverables for the recommendations. The meeting will focus on recommendations 1 through to 9 which RAIB has indicated apply to the whole sector.

In particular, we believe that critical work to review systematically the risk profile of the sector (recommendation 2) should be prioritised by the industry. This can then inform sensible, risk-based decision making around many of the other recommendations.

We strongly believe it is vital that implementation work on those recommendations begins without waiting for the standards and co-operation body envisaged by recommendation 1 to be set up.

We are open minded about the identity of the body that drives such coordination but we believe it will be most effective if it is developed based on the active consensus and collaboration of the UK tram sector. We recognise that funding of that body is a key issue that needs to be resolved with tram owners and DfT.

The discussions at the 22 January meeting will allow ORR to then formally pass on the report and recommendations to individual duty holders, in accordance with the Railways (Accident Investigation and Reporting) Regulations 2005, in a more effective way.

Please can you confirm your attendance via [rec.handling@orr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:rec.handling@orr.gsi.gov.uk) by 5 January 2018.

Yours sincerely

**Ian Prosser**

HM Chief Inspector of Railways

