



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending watchdog

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Email FOI@nao.org.uk

J Taylor

By email:

request-788177-838921ef@whatdotheyknow.com

Reference FOI-1474

Date 10 September 2021

Dear J Taylor

ORR BOARD MINUTES

Thank you for your request of 3 September 2021 for information relating to Board Minutes of the Office of Rail and Road, formerly Office of Rail Regulation (ORR).

Your request is being handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The specific information you requested, and our response, can be found at Annex A.

We hope you find our response helpful. Annex B sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

NAO FOI team

Annex A

Request for information about Board Minutes for the Office of Rail and Road, formerly Office of Rail Regulation (ORR).

[Your request in italics and National Audit Office's (NAO)'s response in plain text]

As of 29 June 2021, no ORR Board minutes had been published on the ORR website since the minutes of the meeting on 22 September 2020, a period of almost 9 months with no publication of this information. Following a FOI request, the ORR has now published these minutes.

Under the FOI Act, please provide the following information:

1) Does the NAO monitor whether ORR publishes its Board minutes on time?

For the purpose of carrying out the audit, the NAO reviews Board minutes obtained directly from ORR. The NAO does not have a role in monitoring whether Board minutes are published on the ORR website on-time by the ORR.

2) Did ORR notify the NAO that the ORR Board minutes had not been published since the minutes of the meeting of 22 September 2020?

We can confirm that the ORR did not notify the NAO that it had not published Board minutes on its website.

Annex B

Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at FOI.requests@nao.org.uk or by post* to:

FOI Team, Red 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

or

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

***Please note: due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, some restrictions remain regarding staff access to our office premises. Hard copy post sent to our offices may be subject to delay.**