

Chief Inspector's Annual Report

Themes and key messages (for discussion at 22 June HSRC)

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“ORR protects the interests of rail and road users, improving the safety, value and performance of railways and roads today and in the future”

Overview

- Drafting well under way and on track to meet the publication deadline of 14th July
- Purpose of the Chief Inspector's Annual Report (CIAR):
 - to provide our view of industry health and safety performance;
 - to report against our safety regulatory and policy activities using statistics and data where available;
 - to be transparent in demonstrating how we have targeted those activities towards the biggest risks;
 - to show how ORR and the industry have responded to issues raised in the previous annual h & s report and in ORR's Business Plan;
 - to identify the core themes of the previous work year; and
 - to highlight the key challenges facing the industry as we see them.

Themes

- Good progress has been made in improving safety across the railway:
 - Lowest number of trespass fatalities in 10 years
 - Equal lowest number of level crossing fatalities (two)
 - Publication of Network Rail's ambitious level crossing strategy
 - RM3 2019 has been embraced by industry and duty holders have shown improvement
 - The Light Rail Safety Standards Board is now fully established; and
 - Significant progress has been made in addressing recommendations from the Sandilands RAIB investigation

Themes contd...

■ But there have been serious setbacks:

- Two track workers were killed at Margam on 03/07/2019
- An escalator engineer was killed at Waterloo Station on 18/09/2019
- A train driver was killed at Tysely Depot on 14/12/2019
- A track worker was killed near Roade on 08/04/2020

■ And not enough progress has been made in some areas:

- Improvements in earthworks management is not keeping pace with climate change
- Although overall SPAD risk has reduced the number of SPADs is increasing
- Similarly, although trespass fatalities have reduced, the number of reported incidents is increasing

Key messages

■ Four challenges for the industry:

– **Pressure on the system:**

- Increasing number of services and congestion before the pandemic, more increased occurrences of SPADs, crowding and changes in passenger and public behavior, changes to working practices.
- Managing the return to 'new normal' after the Covid-19 pandemic.

– **Supporting people:**

- Keeping the railway safe every day. Often the last line of defence
- Continued improvement of culture particularly mental and physical health
- Management of fatigue and stress
- Internal leadership and communication

Key messages contd...

■ Four challenges for the industry:

– **Technology:**

- Realising and maximising the safety benefits of technology (e.g. removing track workers from harm, a requirement of our improvement notice, remote condition monitoring and prediction, body worn cameras, platform train interface and driver controlled operation)
- Better understanding of digital technology and safety critical software
- Earlier and greater engagement between designers/manufacturers and operators/end users

– **Change management**

- Robust strategic plans for electrification, modernisation of train dispatch, alternative fuels and other big changes on the horizon
- Quality risk assessments and realistic implementation plans

Launch

- Unable to hold a launch event at ORR offices as in previous years due to social distancing requirements
- A 'live' event will take place online on 14/07/2020
- Mixture of live presentations and recorded content available to watch on our website
- Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions during the broadcast which will be put to a panel in a Q&A session
- Format similar to ORR all staff briefings