

Strategy and Investment

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Jon Clyne
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Office of Rail Regulation

Your ref:
Letter of

Our ref:
NRS07-051

Date:
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Dear Mr Clyne

Policy Framework for Investments – update on implementation guidelines

In response to the above consultation, I offer the following general comment from Transport Scotland.

Whilst many third party investments in the passenger rail network in Scotland have been based on pre-existing or alternative arrangements, given the timing of the development of the new policy framework for investment, we wish to encourage the adoption of the investment framework templates and processes for third party investments in Scotland.

As it has been our experience that there is a preference for third parties to seek to use alternative arrangements such as our own Agreements, we believe that there remains a need to see improvements to the template and to the processes to support engagement on the delivery of such investments.

We therefore fully support and encourage the Office of Rail Regulation's intention to continue to monitor, keep under review and provide regular updates on the implementation guidelines to ensure that they are indeed effective in overcoming barriers to delivery of efficient investment to develop and improve the rail network.

Yours sincerely

JONATHAN PUGH

Head of Rail Regulation Safety and Standards Team