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From: Peter Loosley [mailto:ploosley@riagb.org.uk]

Sent: 07 January 2005 11:48

To: Ward, Tim

Cc: Jeremy Candfield

Subject: ORR Consultation for a balanced scorecard for Network Rail

Dear Tim,

We spoke earlier in Les's absence on sick leave and I agreed to drop you an e-mail.

As you may know, RIA represents the vast majority by turnover of the companies comprising the supply side of the railway industry and obviously I'm approaching the consultation document with the interests of our members in mind.

Clearly, monitoring NR's output levels against targets needs to happen and KPI 6 on p27 outlines how that process might work. What I'm not really clear about is whether KPI 6 either already does or will include a mechanism for monitoring Network Rail's performance in letting contracts (for signalling, track renewals etc) as opposed to monitoring actual delivery against contracts already let. It's stating the obvious I know, but if there is slippage in actually going out to tender and letting contracts, then there will be knock-on slippage on actual delivery. This is currently of particular importance in signalling where there is a future bow-wave of work forecast, but little actually being let at the moment - ie the bow-wave keeps slipping to the right. This is bad news for our signalling members and Jeremy Candfield raised this issue with Chris Bolt when we met at ORR just before Christmas.

In terms of project management and therefore this process I think there clearly needs to be a forward look timetable of tender and project let dates against which NR can be monitored (I believe MOD for example publish a regular forward-look of major tender and contract let programme dates). Is it the intention to include something like this in your scorecard approach and/or to what extent do you feel it may already be covered by existing mechanisms?

I'd be happy to talk this through on the phone or come to you at ORR to discuss before submitting any response by your 31 Jan deadline.

Regards

Peter

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