



West of Scotland  
Branch

## Rail Group Report

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021

by **Keith Lyall**

### Lookout working:

This topic mentioned in previous update, but has been a topic of discussion in training courses and within projects over the past month and clear not all are fully aware of the changes made by NR. 97% of unassisted lookout working removed and this will be fully removed by the end of 2021, this is a huge change and achievement and has reduced near misses by >70%. This a huge improvement in safety on track.

The lookout competence has been split into lookout and site warden as some "Red Zone" working is still permitted, these will be completed using the site warden competence, sponsors can now remove the lookout competence.

### ORR: ROGS Survey Update:

The ORR publishes the results of a stakeholder survey into ROGS (Railway & other guided transport systems) to determine if it continues to provide an appropriate level of regulation and that regulatory costs remain proportionate. The survey upholds these two statements and proposes further work in relation to Brexit, interaction with other legislation and CSM (Common Safety Method), the report recommends these actions are completed.

### ORR: Hitachi train "cracks":

ORR have published an interim report onto the "cracking" issue in Hitachi class 800/385 trains in May 2021, the issue a result of "fatigue and stress corrosion cracking". Trains were withdrawn/assessed and subsequently put back into service with no issues, final report to be published in December 2021.

### ORR: Pam Warren report "Is safety really part of the rail industry's DNA?":

Pam Warren, a survivor of the Ladbroke Grove incident in 1999 was commissioned by the ORR to allow reflection on the actions from the past 20 years from public enquiries and actions arising to improve rail safety.

Most of these actions have been suitably closed and the response generally positive in respect of improvements to safety standards, interesting to read the views of someone outwith the industry and to see the detailed actions that have been completed.

All ORR documents available from their website.

**ORR: ROGS Review:** [https://www.orr.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-10/2021-rogs-postimplementation-review-findings-and-conclusions\\_0.pdf](https://www.orr.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-10/2021-rogs-postimplementation-review-findings-and-conclusions_0.pdf)

**Hitachi trains:** <https://www.orr.gov.uk/search-news/orr-publishes-interim-report-hitachi-traincracks>

**Pam Warren report:** <https://www.orr.gov.uk/guidance-compliance/rail/health-safety/pam-warrenreport-safety-really-part-rail-industrys-dna>

### **IOSH Railway group:**

Railway group conference 23-25 November taking place virtually this year, key topics include the Grant/Shapps review and future of GB Rail as well as the work of the NR STF, Nick Millington of NR (Safety Task Force Director) will be speaking.

Schedule attached and invitation will be shared as soon as available.