

FROM JOHN YULE – INTERIM CHAIRMAN

The ORR Inspection visit took place as planned on Monday 10 and Tuesday 11 March. I am pleased to advise that the feedback received from the Inspectors at the end of the visit was very positive.

In simple terms, the Inspectors recognised that we were on a journey and are clear where we want to get to, with the result that they found no reason to go anywhere near any enforcement action which is **excellent news**. The ORR are expected to issue a detailed report at the beginning of April.

They were impressed with those they met and interviewed over the two days, by their clear competence and demonstrable knowledge, by what they heard from these individuals and with what they saw, all of which supported what they had heard.

This was a tremendous Team effort, all working together with a strong safety focus to achieve a common aim, which was not simply to prepare for the visit, but to build our capability to manage competence and safety across the Railway, to make our workplace and our operations safer and more efficient. **The Inspectors' feedback validates that joint, cross-departmental effort.**

In the post visit debrief session, Stephen Muirhead talked of the joy of working in such tidy and well organised workshops - **thanks to everyone who helped make this happen** - but also of the challenge of maintaining the standard now created.

Success breeds success and momentum is a strong motivator; we can build on this visit to help maintain a high standard of operations, that makes us and our work safer, more efficient, more effective and of course more enjoyable.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank again all those involved in preparing for this visit- you know who you are.

Kind regards

John

JOHN YULE
Interim Chairman

