

**Oliver Stewart**  
**RAIB Recommendation Handling Manager**



28 March 2024

Mr Andy Lewis  
Deputy Chief Inspector of Rail Accidents

Dear Andy,

**RAIB Report: Collision between a tram and a child cyclist near to Audenshaw tram stop on 1 September 2021**

I write to provide an update<sup>1</sup> on the action taken in respect of recommendation 3 addressed to ORR in the above report, published on 25 August 2022.

The annex to this letter provides details of actions taken in response to the recommendation and the status decided by ORR. The status of recommendation 3 is **'Closed'**.

We do not propose to take any further action in respect of the recommendation, unless we become aware that any of the information provided has become inaccurate, in which case I will write to you again.

We will publish this response on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Stewart

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Regulation 12(2)(b) of the Railways (Accident Investigation and Reporting) Regulations 2005

### Recommendation 3

*The intent of this recommendation is that guidance is produced to clarify the role of the road safety audit process to tramway projects.*

LRSSB should review the application of road safety audits as a means to identify and mitigate hazards during tramway development and construction projects. This review should identify areas where the road safety audit process may be beneficial or where its use may lead to hazards not being appropriately identified or mitigated. This review should also identify and clarify responsibilities for delivering and managing the road safety audit process for tramways. LRSSB should engage with National Highways as required during this review process. The outcome of this review should be used where appropriate to produce revised guidance for the use of organisations involved in the development and construction of tramway schemes.

### ORR decision

1. LRSSB has addressed the recommendation by issuing guidance for the tramway sector on the road safety audit (RSA) process, LRG 41 Road Safety Audit RSA Guidance, published on 31 October 2023. A section covering the RSA process has also been added to LRG 1 Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG). LRSSB has confirmed that National Highways were consulted as part of the development of both documents.
2. To bring the new guidance to the attention of Road Safety Auditors beyond the tram and light rail sector, National Highways included an article in the October 2023 RSA Newsletter.
3. After reviewing the information provided ORR has concluded that, in accordance with the Railways (Accident Investigation and Reporting) Regulations 2005, LRSSB has:
  - taken the recommendation into consideration; and
  - has taken action to close it

**Status: Closed.**

### Previously reported to RAIB

4. On 24 August 2023 ORR reported the following:

LRSSB is taking two main actions to address the recommendation: a section on road safety audits will be included in the scheduled refresh of Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG); and a supplementary guidance document on road safety audits, that will be specific to tramways. Both documents have been drafted and are being consulted on. We have asked LRSSB to clarify how National Highways were consulted during the development of the road safety audit guidance.

## Update

5. On 30 January 2024 the LRSSB provided the following update:

*Thank you for your enquiry, which requested an update detailing LRSSB's activities associated to recommendation three of the above Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) investigation and report.*

*Following on from discussions held with the RAIB during 2023 to establish the anticipated scope of recommendation three, LRSSB can confirm the following actions have been undertaken:*

- *With the assistance of road safety audit experts - Atkins, LRSSB commissioned the production of a supplementary guidance document to the road safety audit process.  
The guidance aims to assist in the identification and mitigation of hazards during development and construction as well as identifying responsibilities for delivering and managing the road safety audit process associated to tramways. The new document (LRG 41 Road Safety Audit RSA Guidance) was published on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.*
- *As part of the scheduled review and refresh of LRG 1 Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG) which took place during 2023, LRSSB included a new section specifically relating to road safety audits. This new section also facilitates a signpost marker referencing both the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges - GG 119 Road Safety Audit, in addition, to the new LRG 41 Road Safety Audit RSA Guidance published by LRSSB.*
- *In order to ensure that the publication of the new guidance was effectively communicated to the RSA community, wider stakeholders and the light rail sector, a front-page article was published in the October 2023 addition of National Highways Road Safety Auditors RSA Newsletter as well as an additional article on LRSSB's website news update in November 2023.*

*Please refer to attached document: **National Highways RSA Newsletter October 2023.***



National Highways  
News Letter October 2

- *Taking into account the fact that RSA's are not solely undertaken by the National Highways Authority, and wishing to aid the communication of the new guidance to the wider RSA community, LRSSB engaged with road safety audit experts (Atkins) to highlight the new guidance, through various RSA forums, such as the South West Road Safety Auditors forum that took place on the 16<sup>th</sup>*

*October 2023, as well as the National Conference of the Society of Road Safety Auditors taking place in June 2024.*

*It is anticipated that as the application of the new guidance by stakeholders evolves the risks associated to tramway / highway interfaces will be more robustly assessed to further aid in the reduction of risk.*

## Previously reported to RAIB

### Recommendation 3

*The intent of this recommendation is that guidance is produced to clarify the role of the road safety audit process to tramway projects.*

LRSSB should review the application of road safety audits as a means to identify and mitigate hazards during tramway development and construction projects. This review should identify areas where the road safety audit process may be beneficial or where its use may lead to hazards not being appropriately identified or mitigated. This review should also identify and clarify responsibilities for delivering and managing the road safety audit process for tramways. LRSSB should engage with National Highways as required during this review process. The outcome of this review should be used where appropriate to produce revised guidance for the use of organisations involved in the development and construction of tramway schemes.

### ORR decision

1. LRSSB is taking two main actions to address the recommendation: a section on road safety audits will be included in the scheduled refresh of Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG); and a supplementary guidance document on road safety audits, that will be specific to tramways. Both documents have been drafted and are being consulted on. We have asked LRSSB to clarify how National Highways were consulted during the development of the road safety audit guidance.
2. After reviewing the information provided ORR has concluded that, in accordance with the Railways (Accident Investigation and Reporting) Regulations 2005, LRSSB has:
  - taken the recommendation into consideration; and
  - is taking action to close it

### Status: Open

### Information in support of ORR decision

3. On 21 November 2022 LRSSB provided the following initial response:

*Following further discussions with the RAIB to establish the anticipated scope of recommendation three, from the RAIB's perspective. LRSSB can confirm the following actions.*

  - *As part of the scheduled refresh of Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG) taking place in 2023, LRSSB intend to include a new section specifically relating to road safety audits. In addition, this new section will also facilitate a signpost marker referencing the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges - GG 119 Road Safety Audit.*
  - *LRSSB can also advise that it is commissioning the development of a supplementary guidance document in conjunction with road safety audit*

*experts. The intention of the guidance document will be to highlight and clarify the role of the road safety audit process associated to tramways, as well as its ability to function as a medium to identify and mitigate hazards during tramway development and construction, whilst also identifying responsibilities for delivering and managing the road safety audit process associated to tramways.*

4. On 4 May 2023 LRSSB provided the following update:

*Following on from discussions held with the RAIB to establish the anticipated scope of recommendation three from the RAIB's perspective LRSSB can confirm the following actions are in progress.*

- As part of the scheduled refresh of Tramway Principles and Guidance document (TPG) taking place in 2023, LRSSB have include a new section specifically relating to road safety audits. This new section also facilitates a signpost marker referencing the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges - GG 119 Road Safety Audit. In addition, the new Road Safety Audit Guidance that LRSSB are currently developing will also be sign posted.*

- LRSSB can also advise that it has commissioned the development of a supplementary guidance document in conjunction with road safety audit experts (Atkins). Following An in-depth evaluation of the scope, the intention of the guidance document will be to highlight and clarify the role of the road safety audit process associated to tramways as well as its ability to function as a medium to identify and mitigate hazards during tramway development and construction, in addition to identifying responsibilities for delivering and managing the road safety audit process associated to tramways.*

*Completion of the new guidance document is anticipated in June 2003.*