

From: Julian Worth
Sent: 20 July 2012 6:21 PM
To: Eyles, Andrew
Cc: info@raildeliverygroup.org
Subject: Formalisation of RDG

Andrew,

I write in response to your consultation document on this subject. My locus in responding is as Director of Transworth Rail, which provides consultancy and advice on rail-based logistics. As you may be aware, I have recently written and presented two one-day training courses on Railfreight to ORR and DfT staff on behalf of the CILT and the Rail Freight Group.

Taking your questions seriatim:

1. Yes, I consider formalisation of RDG to be an important and essential way of driving change and efficiency in the industry.
2. I am concerned at the issue mentioned in 2.20 - that fragmentation of the freight market amongst FOC's might result in under-representation of this group. I would strongly support the option mentioned - that the two largest FOC's should be leadership members of RDG, irrespective of turnover.
3. I consider that associate members should also have the right to participate in all RDG consultations - without this, their knowledge and views cannot be effectively factored into RDG decisions.
4. Not applicable
5. Para 2.47 caters for the possibility of passenger TOC's trying to force through a decision against the interests of Network Rail and/or FOC's. I am concerned that, whilst Network Rail's support is required in a second vote to ratify the decision, no such protection of Freight interests is proposed. This seems inconsistent, since an FOC director is required for a meeting to be quorate, and I believe that ratification should be dependent on withdrawal of opposition by both Network Rail **and** FOC directors. Without this, there would be an absence of the required cross industry support.
6. No
7. Agreed

I trust this is of assistance - please contact me if you wish further input.

Regards,

Julian Worth