

# Weather Resilience & Climate Change Adaptation Policy

Network Rail runs, maintains and develops Britain's rail tracks, signalling, bridges, tunnels, level crossings and many key stations. We are focused on ensuring a safe and reliable railway network and key to this is managing the impact of weather on our operations. Climate change is projected to increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather and is likely to have significant impacts on our infrastructure in the future.

This Weather Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation Policy sets out our approach to achieving our company's vision of 'A better railway for a better Britain' and aims to create a *railway that is safe and more resilient to the effects of weather, now and in the future*. Network Rail is committed to transforming the way we work to ensure that, over time, Britain's railway becomes resilient to projected future climatic conditions at the same time as managing high risk assets which are currently disrupting operations during periods of adverse and/or extreme weather.

We expect everyone who works for Network Rail to apply the following key principles, agreed by the Executive Team, to guide our work activities:

- We will consider how climate change might amplify existing weather related impacts and create new risks to the railway and incorporate this understanding into analysis and decision making processes throughout the business.
- We will adapt at construction and at asset renewal in order to provide resilience in the most cost effective manner by designing schemes to be resilient to future weather conditions and/or with a view to providing passive provision for future weather conditions.
- When weather events cause catastrophic asset failure such as collapse of a sea wall or scour damage to a bridge, we commit to replacing like for better rather than like for like, with consideration of the whole life cost and the best strategic approach for managing the railway.
- We will incorporate climate change specifications within policies, procedures and standards so that future weather conditions are considered and appropriately captured and addressed within all the work that we do.
- We will identify high priority locations for proactive resilience interventions and will work to identify funding sources for those projects not included within business as usual asset policy compliance and capex investment.
- We will work with the Rail Delivery Group, train operating companies, emergency response authorities and others to identify opportunities to enhance the resilience of our preparation for, response to and recovery from the adverse/extreme weather events.

These principles and commitments complement our Environment, Energy & Carbon and Social Performance Policies.

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