

Network Rail appoints Costain to strategic national rail framework

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Costain, the smart infrastructure solutions company, has been awarded a place on Network Rail's Operational Programme Delivery framework.

For up to the next six years, Costain will provide specialist client-side project management consultancy services for Network Rail nationally to manage and assure the delivery of complex decarbonisation, climate change and digitisation programmes.

Under the framework, Costain has already secured its first commission to support the delivery of Network Rail's national weather resilience programme, addressing the impacts of climate change on the railway.

Costain will be supported by specialist SME and railway consultant, Schofield Lothian.

Network Rail's regional teams will procure project management services which support the development of critical national programmes, such as digital train control and signalling, and electrification, through this centralised framework. These programmes exemplify Network Rail's commitment to putting passengers first and creating a more sustainable and reliable railway which offers more capacity for customers.

Sue Kershaw, Costain's managing director of Transportation, said: "Drawing on our deep understanding of the railway and best practice from the road, water, energy and defence sectors, we are well placed to join the dots throughout the different stages of programme delivery and identify opportunities where positive leadership, programme assurance and data insights can enable enhanced decision-making and drive better outcomes.

"Costain's pedigree in complex programme delivery, its consultancy services and digital DNA, position us to maximise the value for money and impact of key transformation programmes for Network Rail, its passengers and the taxpayer."

Kevin Corcoran, managing director, Schofield Lothian, said: "We are delighted to be partnering with Costain on this strategic national framework for Network Rail. We are looking forward to building on the success of our 30-year track record in delivering professional consultancy services to Network Rail. With Costain, we will deliver innovative and enhanced value with a collaborative approach on rail infrastructure projects."

Photo credit: Costain