

Plan sets out key projects to enhance light rail safety

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An intensive programme of initiatives to further boost light rail safety has been highlighted in a new document.

A focus on the continued development of a new industry risk model, building a robust accident reporting system and expanding an online library of guidance documents are among the projects detailed in the new Light Rail Safety and Standards Board (LRSSB) business plan.

Building on work that has continued through the coronavirus pandemic, the plan also includes a commitment to leading on light rail safety research. Published this week, it sets out clear targets for the remainder of the current financial year, while looking forward to 2024.

Carl Williams, LRSSB Chief Executive, explained: “Over the past 12 months we have worked alongside members to establish the processes required to successfully establish standards, update guidance and identify areas where LRSSB can add real value to members.

“During a difficult year for everyone, this vital work has continued apace, alongside the development of a

Tram Accident and Incident Reporting (TAIR) project and an Industry Risk Model. These have now reached a point where a national risk profile is sufficiently mature to identify precursors and emerging risks at a local and national level.

“The LRSSB has also invested in intelligent software that will utilise this data to produce accurate risk assessments and effective mitigation measures and, over the next couple of years, these will be further refined to meet the evolving needs of the sector.”

“This has all been done alongside the development of an upgraded LRSSB website which is set to become a vital online resource, designed to expand and evolve as new guidance is published or updated.”

Now available to download from the new-look website, the business plan illustrates a series of key workstreams, built around risk modelling, incident reporting, research and development, standards and guidance, and competency management.

“Collaboration with partners across light rail, and other relevant organisations, will also be a key focus as we strive to meet our aim of aiding the sector in providing a zero-serious-harm environment for customers, public and staff,” Mr Williams said.

“In the two years since it was established, the LRSSB has already made a major contribution to light rail safety. These ambitious plans for the near future will take it to another level, helping the UK to become a world-leader in tramway safety while providing an example of excellence for other sectors to follow,” he added.

The full business plan report can be found [here](#).

Photo credit: LRSSB