

RSSB opens consultation on Sustainable Rail Strategy Prototype

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RSSB has opened a consultation on the Sustainable Rail Strategy (SRS) Prototype, an initial version of a leadership plan that aims to shape an even cleaner and greener railway.

RSSB says Britain's railways are already the most sustainable way to transport large numbers of people and goods, but it adds there is still room for improvement. The *Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail* identified the need for "a comprehensive environment plan that will establish rail as the backbone of a cleaner future transport system".

The SRS will be that plan: the first industry-wide approach to sustainability, across environmental and social topics.

This SRS Prototype is a vital stepping stone towards a definitive, final strategy for sustainable rail. It sets out clear, strategic sustainability guidance and a framework for alignment across the rail industry, showing where action is required to deliver on policy and meet the expectations of society.

RSSB's consultation, on behalf of the Sustainable Rail Executive, is open until 15 July 2022, seeking

feedback from industry and sustainability experts on the Prototype, its priorities, implementation and effectiveness. The finalised Sustainable Rail Strategy is expected to be published later in 2022 and will form a key input into Great British Railways *Whole Industry Strategic Plan (WISP)*.

RSSB's director of sustainable development, George Davies said: "The Sustainable Rail Strategy (SRS) Prototype sets out clear and ambitious goals for the rail industry. It's a detailed leadership plan for the sector to deliver on Government aspirations and what society expects a major industry like ours to be doing.

"Taking advice on the way forward is crucial to building consensus and corraling the action needed to convert the strategy into the operational railway."

You can view the SRS Prototype and consultation survey on the RSSB website, at:

<https://www.rspb.co.uk/sustainability/sustainable-rail-strategy>