Finance

The chief finance office directorate is a team of functions that work to support the regions through shared services and a centre of expertise, as well as managing the corporate functional requirements. Our vision for the directorate is that we consistently operate as a trusted strategic partner, delivering high quality professional services and solid financial infrastructure throughout the organisation. The directorate has undergone a transformation to support a far more commercially focused business.

With regions as our customers we provide a number of core services, including:





Business planning and performance management



Group Control: accounting services, insurance and claims management



Regulation management and coordination with the Office of Rail and Road (ORR)



Third party commitments advice (corporate commercial)



Property development and services, retail management especially in major stations (who have a separate business plan)

Corporately, we manage and oversee

- Funding and external debt management, senior relationship management with Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT)
- Regulatory relationships and strategic development
- Internal audit and group risk
- Company secretariat, corporate governance, transparency/freedom of information

Our objectives

Several key external stakeholder relationships are managed within the function including with the HMT and the Office for Rail Road. Relationships are managed through a series of formal engagements supplemented through regular, senior level informal contacts. Whilst their key priorities generally relate to the wider business, feedback has been used to shape the function's Control Period 6 (CP6) objectives.

The objectives include:

- Deliver CP6 within the agreed funding.
- Improve value for money and efficiency of the overall business.
- Increase the amount of third party funded Network Rail
 and third-party promoted investment. If a third party has a
 particular project that they would like to take forward, and is
 in a position to do so, then the most effective model may be
 for them to take on responsibility for the funding, design, and
 build. We would advise on standards and on compatibility
 with, and protection of, the existing rail network.
- Increased amount of third party financed schemes. We know there is considerable private sector appetite to invest in longlife secure assets such as railways. We have established a team to identify suitable opportunities for this.
- Embed effective and deeper devolution including regionbased regulation within the business. Each region now has a separate regulatory determination from the ORR.
- Lead a successful Control Period 7 (CP7) periodic review process, shape the Strategic Business Plan.
- Meet our Finance vision set out above.