

## REAL-TIME INFORMATION PROVISION IN AN AREA

The provision of real-time operating information is essential for the cost-efficient running of the railway and for satisfactory passenger information. This memorandum proposes an area-based real-time information system which will provide high quality real-time information to the people and systems that need it. The approach is general, in being suitable for any area, and flexible, to cater for any requirement from the most sophisticated in a busy suburban area to the simplest for lightly used lines. An illustrative example is given.

Implementation of a prototype is recommended, along with further work on the following:

- Standardisation across the network of the form in which information is output to users.
- New signalling systems should take account of the information needs of all users, not just those in the signalling centre.
- A timetable database capable of supplying current timetable information to an operating area should be developed as a matter of urgency.