

The IGC met in London on 11 May 2017, in a meeting chaired by France. The following topics were discussed:

ElecLink

The IGC received an update on the ElecLink project to install a high voltage power cable through the Tunnel. It reiterated to Eurotunnel that the safety of the Fixed Link must be assured at all times and also of the need to produce a report on the risks posed by the project for safety and security in the Tunnel. Eurotunnel was also reminded of the need to provide an updated project plan of key milestones incorporating the required assessment and approval phases to enable the IGC to develop a schedule of supervision actions for monitoring the project as it progresses.

4th Railway Package

The IGC provided an update on its exchanges with the European Union Agency for Railways and preparatory work with a view to facilitating the introduction of the 4th Railway Package. These were specifically concerned with the Agency granting authorisations and cross-border safety certificates and identifying national rules in the form of TSIs.

Follow-up to incidents in January 2015

The IGC has sent an official letter to the BEA-TT and the RAIB following up the recommendations made by these two bodies after the fire in the Tunnel on 17 January 2015.

Freight traffic in the Tunnel

The Department for Transport has notified the IGC of the results of the report it had commissioned from First Class Partnerships Ltd on the possibility of producing a pan-European locomotive with the ability to travel in the Tunnel and on adjacent networks.

Monitoring Eurotunnel performance

The IGC has held its first annual performance monitoring meeting with Eurotunnel and the railway undertakings that use the Channel Tunnel. It examined the performance scheme set up by Eurotunnel and specifically the way in which traffic data is collected, analysed and distributed. The IGC urged Eurotunnel to continue with this approach, and to go still further by considering safety indicators. It was agreed that data for 2016 would be published and that follow-up meetings would continue to be held on an annual basis.

Proposed Amsterdam-London service

The IGC discussed progress with Eurostar's proposed new service between Amsterdam and London.