

# Road safety audit newsletter



July 2025

This newsletter provides road safety auditors, designers and other road safety professionals with an update on current road safety audit related issues in addition to the review of Road Safety Audit (RSA) reports.

This July edition comprises of a review of a sample of RSAs submitted to the National Highways Road Safety Audit inbox between April and June 2025 (inclusive).

The inbox address is [roadsafetyaudit@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:roadsafetyaudit@nationalhighways.co.uk)

## Guide to Road Safety Route Treatments update

The Guide to Road Safety Route Treatments is a recipe book for road safety design interventions; one that allows you to understand the impact of different enhancements along a route. It makes it easier to compare the benefits and determine the most appropriate solution to meet the road safety challenges you face.

We've enhanced The Guide, making it easier to read, understand and apply to the challenges we face in not only improving safety, but designing roads that serve the communities that will use them for generations to come.

You can find the updated version of the document, here:

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/suppliers/design-standards-and-specifications/road-design-guidance/>



# Commonly identified areas for development

The issues below are regularly identified in the sample of RSA reports reviewed each quarter.



## No details of who approved the RSA brief.

### KEY REMINDER:

Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: details of who supplied the RSA brief, who approved the RSA brief and ..."*

**NOTE:** Indicating that the RSA Brief was provided by the Overseeing Organisation does not necessarily imply that it has been approved. To ensure compliance with GG 119, please make sure that reports explicitly state who approved the RSA Brief.



## Insufficient details of who was present at the site visit.

### KEY REMINDER:

Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: details of who was present at the site visit..."*



## Missing scheme details and objectives.

### KEY REMINDER:

Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: a brief description of the highway scheme including details of its location and its objectives"*



## Recommendations that could potentially be misinterpreted as instructions.

### KEY REMINDER:

Clause 5.11 of GG 119 states: *"RSA recommendations including the words "consider" and "must" shall not be used."*

# Commonly identified good practice

The following are examples of good practice regularly identified in the sample of RSA reports reviewed each quarter.



**RSA reports signed by RSA team (both member and leader).**

**KEY REMINDER:**

Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: a statement, signed by both the RSA team leader and the RSA team member(s) in the format given in appendix D;"*



**List of documents and drawings included.**

**KEY REMINDER:**

Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: a list of information provided to the RSA team."*



**Identification of the RSA stage ... and document revision details.**

**KEY REMINDER:**

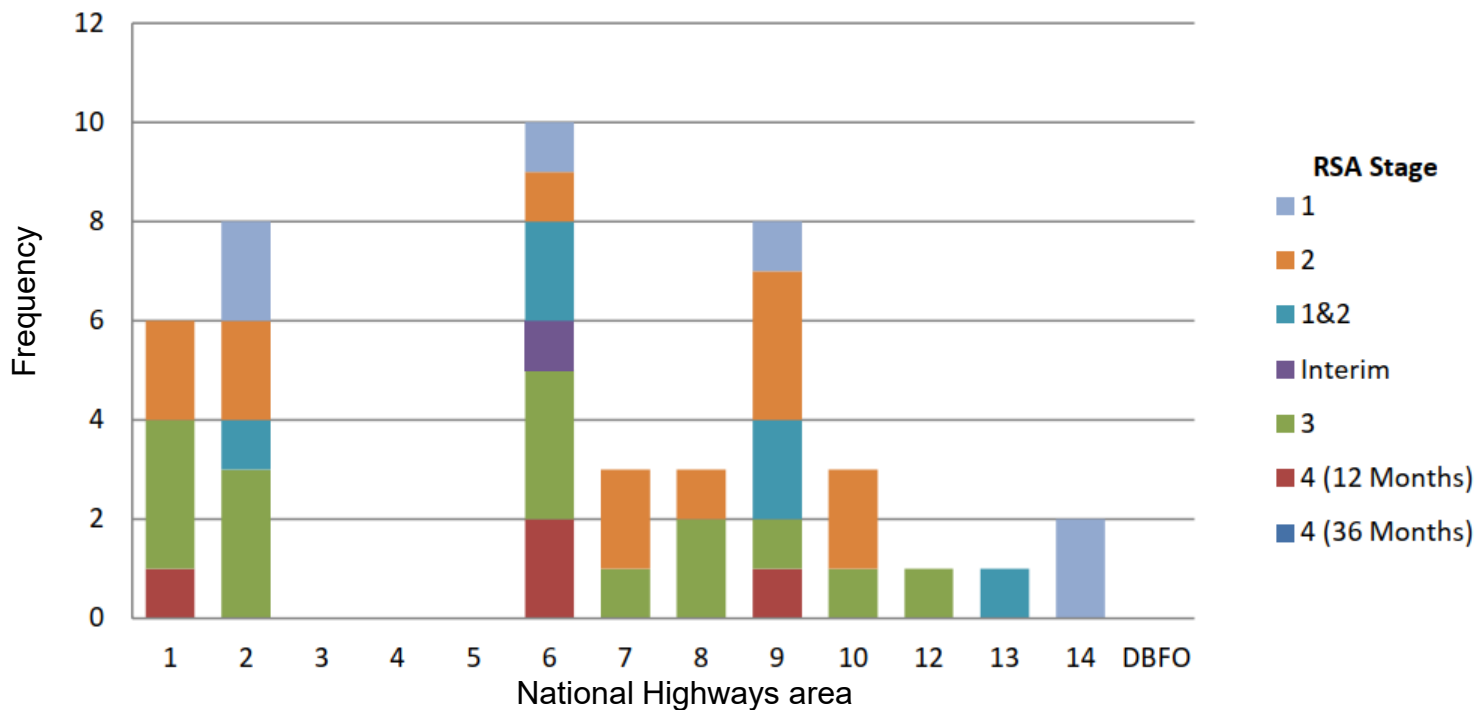
Clause 5.13 of GG 119 states: *"RSA reports shall include: identification of the RSA stage including a unique document reference number and any details of revisions;"*

# Scope

This review includes a summary of all the RSA reports submitted to the National Highways RSA inbox during the period 1 April to 30 June 2025 and then focuses in more detail on a sample of these reports. The objective of the review is to encourage discussion on good practice and areas that need further development.

## RSAs by National Highways area

Figure 1 illustrates all 45 RSAs submitted to the RSA inbox between April and June 2025 by National Highways area. Twenty-two percent [10] of the RSAs submitted this quarter were from Area 6. Eighteen percent [8] were from Area 2 and the same percentage were from Area 9.



**Figure 1 – Number of RSAs by National Highways operational area (April – June 2025)**

Of the 45 RSAs submitted during this period, 33% were stage 3 RSAs.

RSA stage	Number
1	6
2	13
Combined 1 & 2	6
3	15
4 (12 month)	4
Interim	1

# RSAs by stage and scheme type

Figure 2 illustrates all 45 RSAs submitted to the RSA inbox during the three-month period between April and June 2025 by stage and scheme type. Forty percent [18] were maintenance infrastructure schemes.

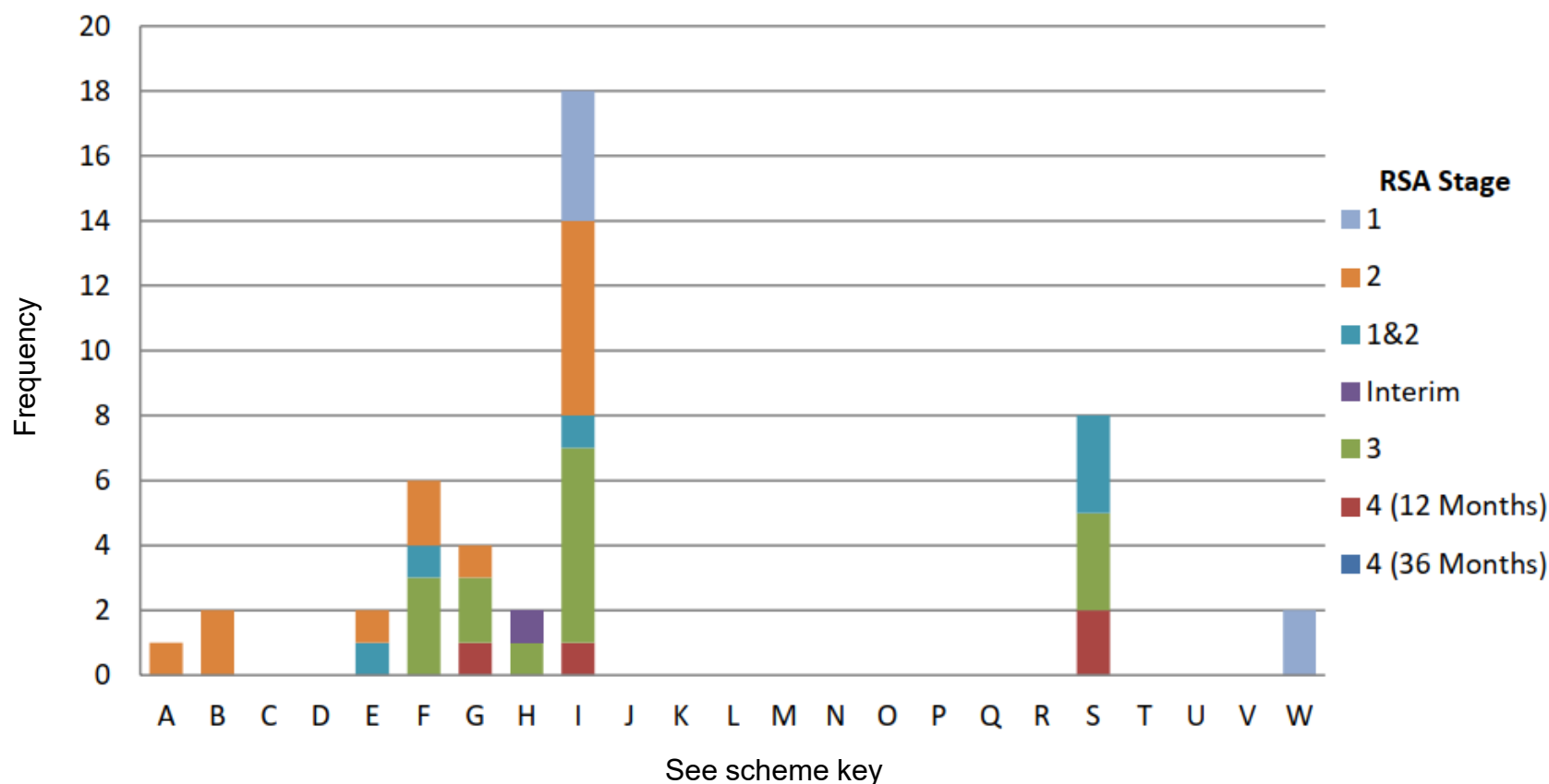


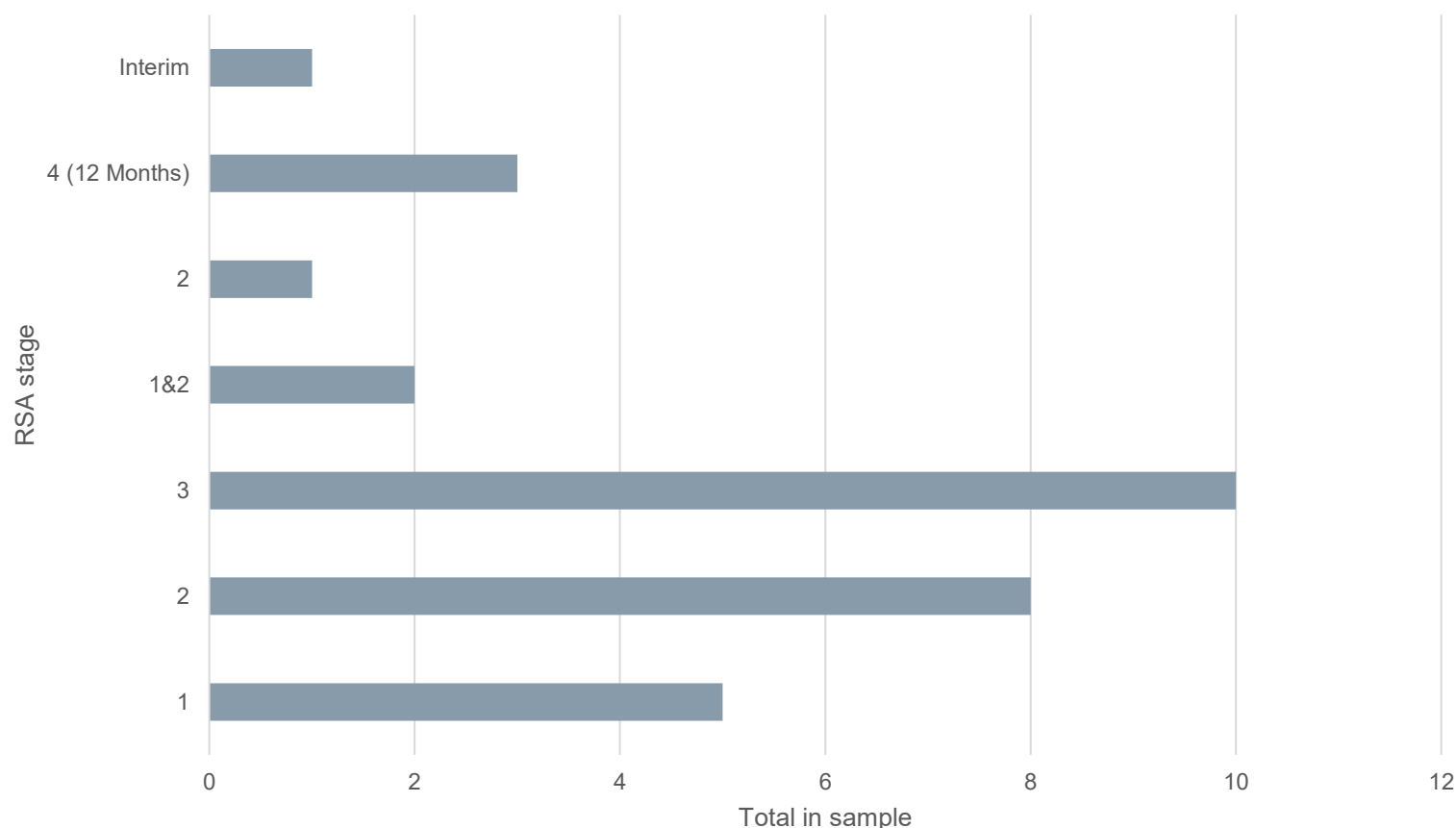
Figure 2 – Number of RSAs by stage and scheme type (April to June 2025)

Scheme key	
<b>A</b>	All lane running/smart motorway
<b>B</b>	Bridge
<b>C</b>	Bus lane/guided bus
<b>D</b>	Conversion single to dual carriageway
<b>E</b>	Drainage
<b>F</b>	Enforcement infrastructure/cameras
<b>G</b>	Junction improvement
<b>H</b>	Link improvement
<b>I</b>	Maintenance infrastructure
<b>J</b>	Maintenance access
<b>K</b>	Traffic signals (new)
<b>L</b>	WCH crossing
<b>M</b>	WCH path/way/route
<b>N</b>	Public realm,/urban regeneration
<b>O</b>	Public transport interchange/hub
<b>P</b>	Road/access closure or feature/facility removal
<b>Q</b>	Shared use (WCH and traffic)
<b>R</b>	Shared use (WCH only)
<b>S</b>	Signs/markings
<b>T</b>	Temporary traffic management
<b>U</b>	Tram or LRT route/facility
<b>V</b>	Tunnel
<b>W</b>	Widening

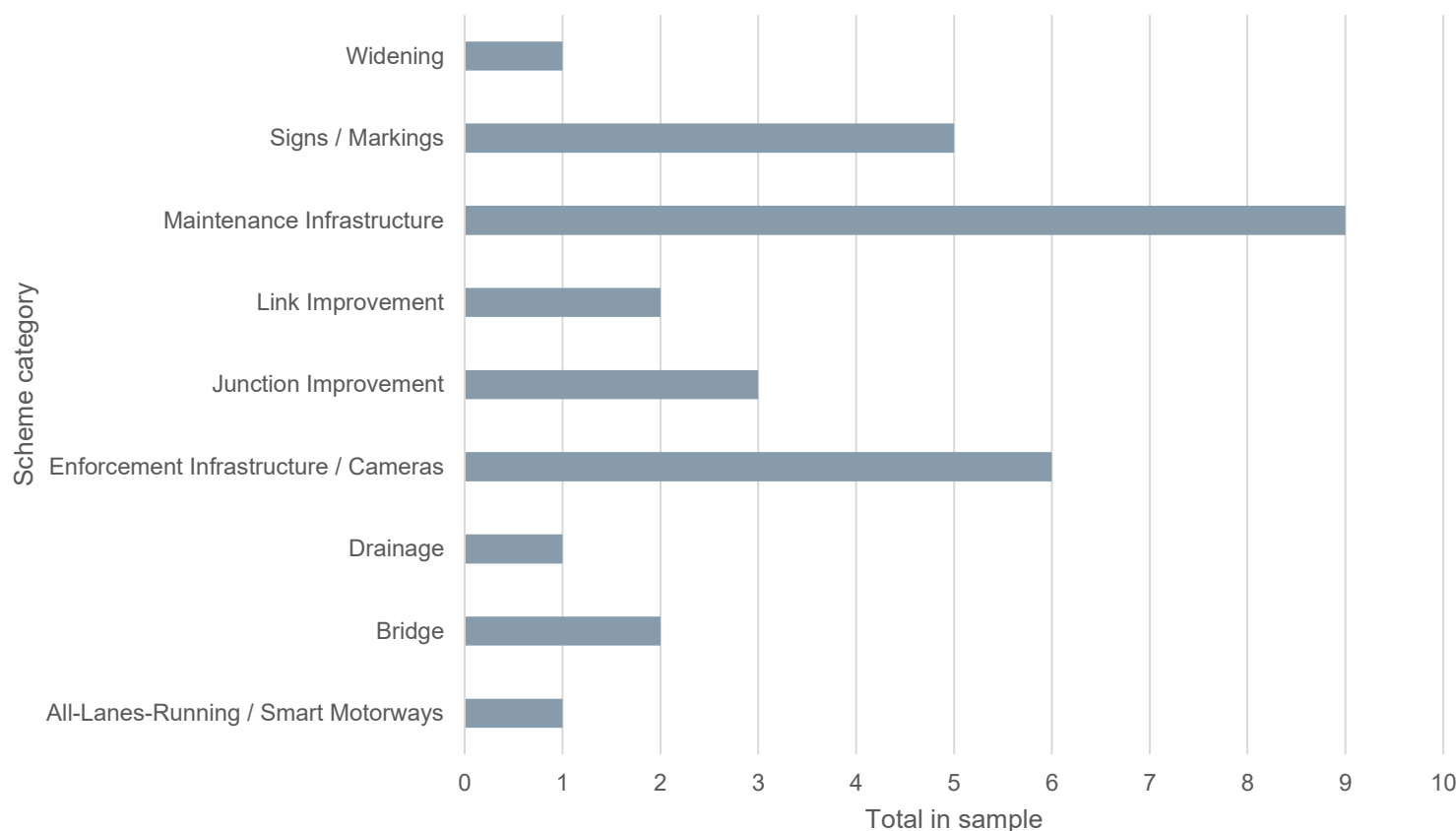
# Review sample

This review focuses on a sample of the RSA reports uploaded to the National Highways road safety audit database during the period April and June 2025. A sample of 30 RSAs submitted to the RSA inbox during this period has been reviewed, all of which stated they had been carried out in accordance with GG 119.

The stages of these RSAs are shown in Figure 3 and the types of scheme in Figure 4.



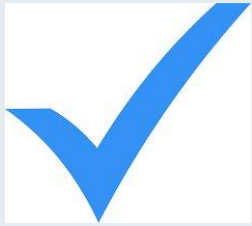
**Figure 3 - Number of RSAs by stage (April to June 2025) - Review sample**



**Figure 4 - Number of RSAs by scheme category (April to June 2025) - Review sample**

# Good practice

Based on the 30 RSAs reviewed in this sample, this section identifies areas of good practice.



## **RSA team leader specifically identified**

100% of the RSAs in the sample specifically identified the RSA team leader. This is consistent with the previous quarter.



## **Inclusion of a location plan based on the scheme plan(s), marked up and referenced to problems**

Most of the RSAs in the sample this quarter included a marked-up location plan, as required by GG 119.



## **Justification for combining stage 1 and 2 RSAs**

While not mandated by GG 119, some RSA reports provided justification for combining stage 1 and 2 RSAs. This aids the reader in understanding the scheme's background.

# Areas for development

Based on the 30 RSAs reviewed in this sample, the areas for development are captured in the “commonly identified areas for development” section of this newsletter. However, the following additional items were highlighted on more than one of the reports in the sample this quarter:



## **RSA team acceptance of RSA Brief**

Some RSA reports included a statement to say that the RSA team accepted the RSA brief which isn't a requirement of GG 119.

# Areas for development (continued)



## **Inclusion of reference number**

Some RSAs in the sample this quarter did not include a unique document reference number. The inclusion of a unique document reference number is a requirement of GG 119.