

Road safety audit newsletter



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

The inbox address is roadsafetyaudit@nationalhighways.co.uk

Wrong Way Driving: Assessment and Mitigation Toolkit

Establishing how a wrong way driving incident happened can be difficult as it is not always apparent where the initial wrong way manoeuvre occurred or why the road user made that decision. This toolkit provides advice to designers and anyone within National Highways who has a role to play in the safe operation of the network.

The refreshed document discusses sources of information to better understand the causes and volumes of incidents occurring. It encourages closer working relationships with third parties to better understand the risks and working collaboratively to mitigate undesirable manoeuvres that could lead to wrong way driving

Wrong Way Driving: Assessment and Mitigation Toolkit



You can find the updated version of the document here:

[wrong-way-driving-assessment-and-mitigation-toolkit.pdf](#)

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 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"*

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 July to 30 September 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 56 RSAs submitted to the RSA inbox between July and September 2025 by National Highways area. Twenty-five percent [14] of the RSAs submitted this quarter were from Area 7. Twenty-one percent [12] were from Area 9.

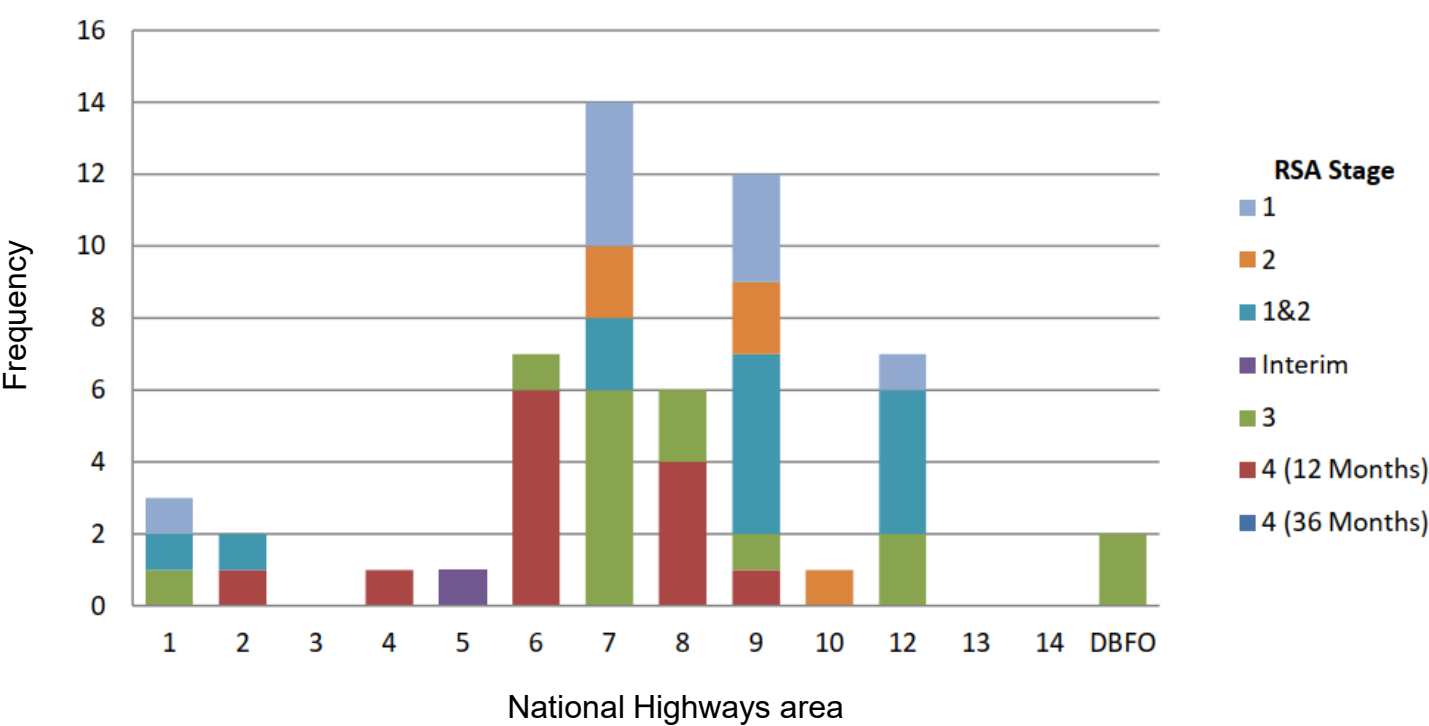


Figure 1 – Number of RSAs by National Highways operational area (July – September 2025)

Of the 56 RSAs submitted during this period, 27% were stage 3 RSAs.

RSA stage	Number
1	9
2	5
Combined 1 & 2	13
3	15
4 (12 month)	13
Interim	1

RSAs by stage and scheme type

Figure 2 illustrates all 56 RSAs submitted to the RSA inbox during the three-month period between July and September 2025 by stage and scheme type. Thirty-two percent [18] were signs/markings schemes.

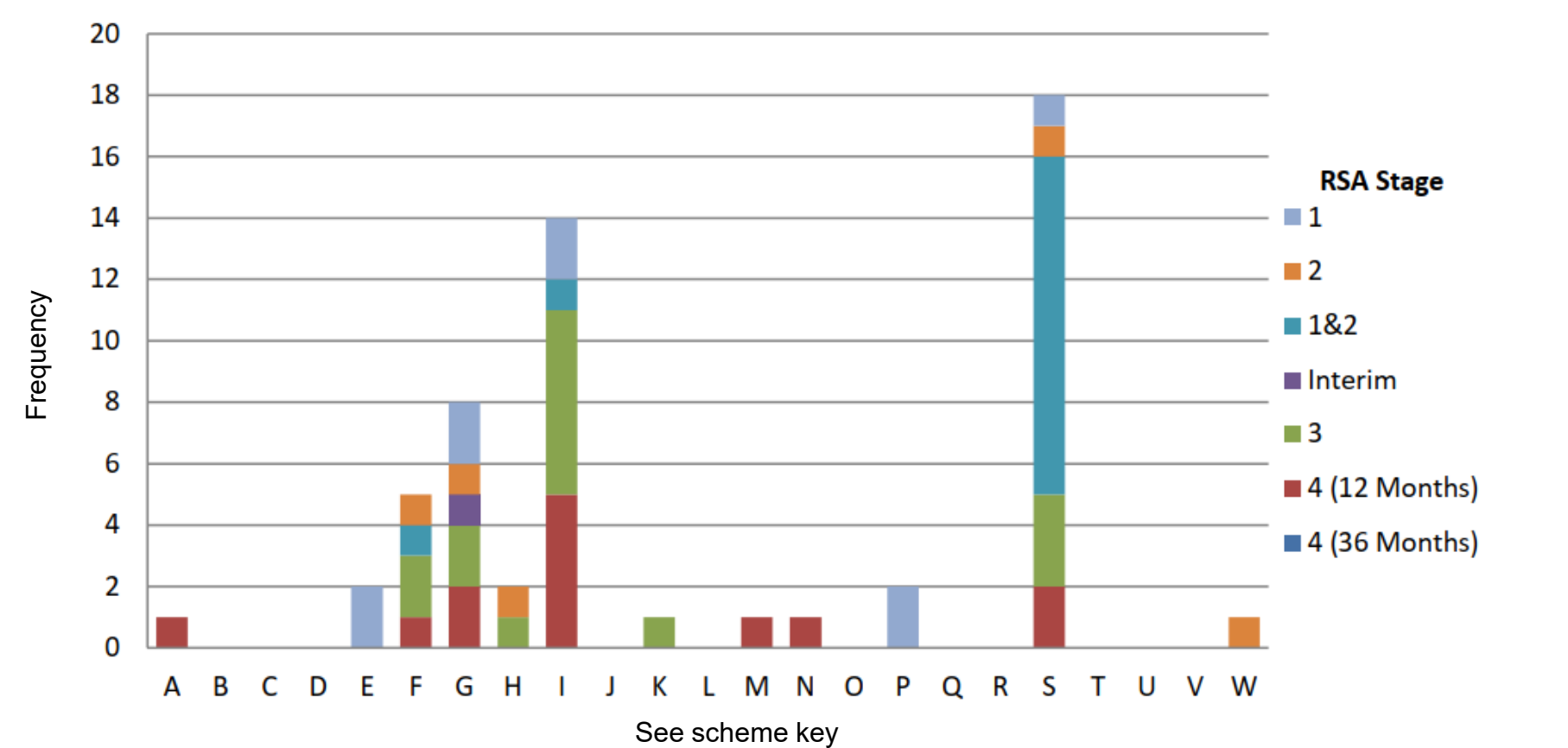


Figure 2 – Number of RSAs by stage and scheme type (July to September 2025)

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

Review sample

This review focuses on a sample of the RSA reports uploaded to the National Highways road safety audit database during the period July and September 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.

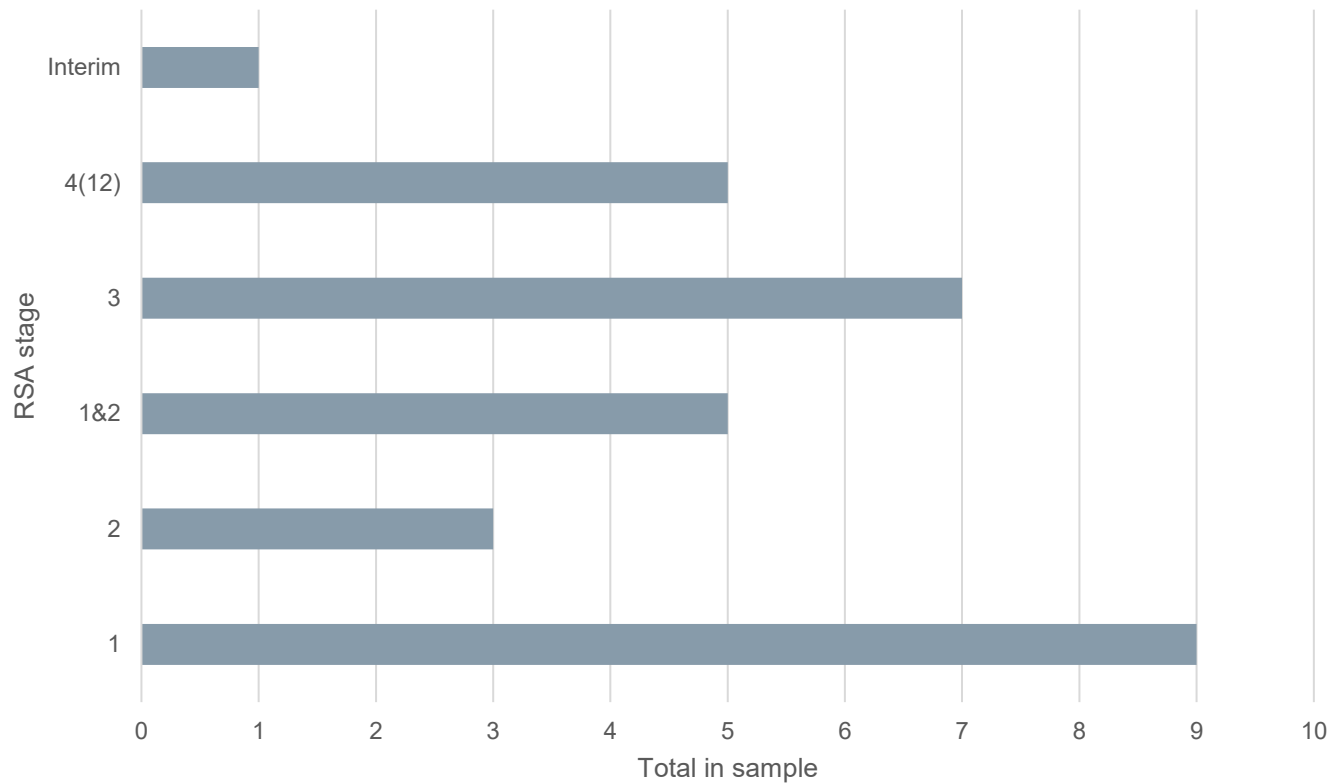


Figure 3 - Number of RSAs by stage (July to September 2025) - Review sample



Figure 4 - Number of RSAs by scheme category (July to September 2025) - Review sample

Good practice

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



Scheme Descriptions

Most of the RSAs in the sample this quarter included clear scheme descriptions.



Evidence Supporting Problem Identification

A number of the RSAs in the sample this quarter included problems that were supported by site visit photographs and drawing extracts.



Collision Types

Most of the RSAs in the sample made reference to resultant road traffic collision types in the road safety audit problem.

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:



Inclusion of Non-Compliant Items

A few reports in the sample included correspondence or cover letters in appendices, which should be excluded as per GG 119.



Visual Accessibility

Some problem location plans were unclear or not derived from scheme drawings. While this does not constitute a non-compliance, it can hinder accurate problem identification. Using clear, scheme-based plans should be regarded as best practice.



Problem and Recommendation Clarity

Three of the RSA reports used ambiguous language (e.g., “consideration should be given”) which may weaken recommendations.