

National Highways Supplier Development System

Our new **Supplier Development System** (launched November 2024) will prepare the supply chain for effective delivery of the third Road Investment Strategy (RIS3). We have worked with a range of key delivery partners and major contractors to develop a new capability assessment which is available free of charge to any company in the wider highways supply chain.

The Supplier Development System (SDS) consists of a capability assessment and action plan for organisations to benchmark and build competencies across a range of priority issues. We invite all suppliers and sub-contractors in the wider highways supply chain to use this important tool to develop their business.

The SDS is not linked to any procurement decision-making process. Its intention is to build an understanding of National Highways imperatives and how the supply chain can best align to these.

We are committed to achieving several key outcomes through the next Roads Investment Period (RIP):

- ✓ Improving safety for all
- ✓ Providing fast and reliable journeys
- ✓ A well-maintained and resilient network
- ✓ Achieving efficient delivery
- ✓ Meeting the needs of all users
- ✓ Delivering better environmental outcomes

Outcomes we want to achieve



To support these, the SDS builds awareness and capacity at a business wide level in a range of disciplines, grouped into a 3-tiered approach to organisational development

Good at the basics	Delivering safely
	Predictable & efficient delivery: time, cost, quality
	Customer centric delivery & operation
Continuous improvement	Environmental sustainability & decarbonisation
	Deployment of digitalisation
	Modern delivery methods and productivity
Progressive values and behaviours	Action on social value & EDI
	Collaborative enterprise / aligned practices
	Motivating leading performance, culture & change

The assessment has a range of competency subjects, each one scored from maturity levels 1 to 5.

The competency subjects are arranged under different main themes, using three tiers as shown in the table. Use the help function (?) to show full competency descriptions. Each of the questions has a N/A option, so companies can skip any that do not apply to their business.

On completion, submit your answers to generate a bespoke Action Plan for your business, designed to focus attention on any areas for improvement.

The Action Plan contains recommended resources to take your business to the next level. Actions can be allocated to colleagues if required.

Companies can Re-Assess after the Action Plan has been finished.

Owner or Admin level access to a company account is required to view / complete a company level assessment. For larger companies we recommend the assessment is completed by a team of colleagues representing different functions within your business