



# Infrastructure Cost Review: Charter Commitments



## Purpose

This charter establishes the high-level objectives and behavioural changes needed to reduce the costs of infrastructure delivery. These objectives are set out in the commitments made in the Government's Plan for Growth at Budget 2011, the Infrastructure Cost Review: Implementation Plan (March 2011) and are consistent with the Government's Construction Strategy (May 2011).

Infrastructure UK, within HM Treasury, will take the lead in embedding these changes within Government and will promote their adoption by regulated and private sector infrastructure bodies.

To ensure co-ordination with the wider Government Construction Strategy a new Government Construction Board, chaired by the Government's Chief Construction Adviser, has been established under the direction of the Minister for the Cabinet Office, Francis Maude.

This charter has been developed to complement rather than replace existing best practice such as the 2012 Construction Commitments, the Fair Payment Charter and other more specific standards.

## Measures of success

Government will embed these objectives and behavioural changes into the public sector and where appropriate will work with industry, regulatory bodies and private sector infrastructure providers to encourage their wider implementation.

The Government will report annually on progress against these objectives and the specific Cost Review and Construction Strategy actions, through the Government Construction Board. The first report will be published March 2012.

## Joint development

This Charter has been developed by Government with the support and endorsement of the following organisations. These organisations are committed to working with Government to monitor and report on implementation of the Charter across the wider industry.



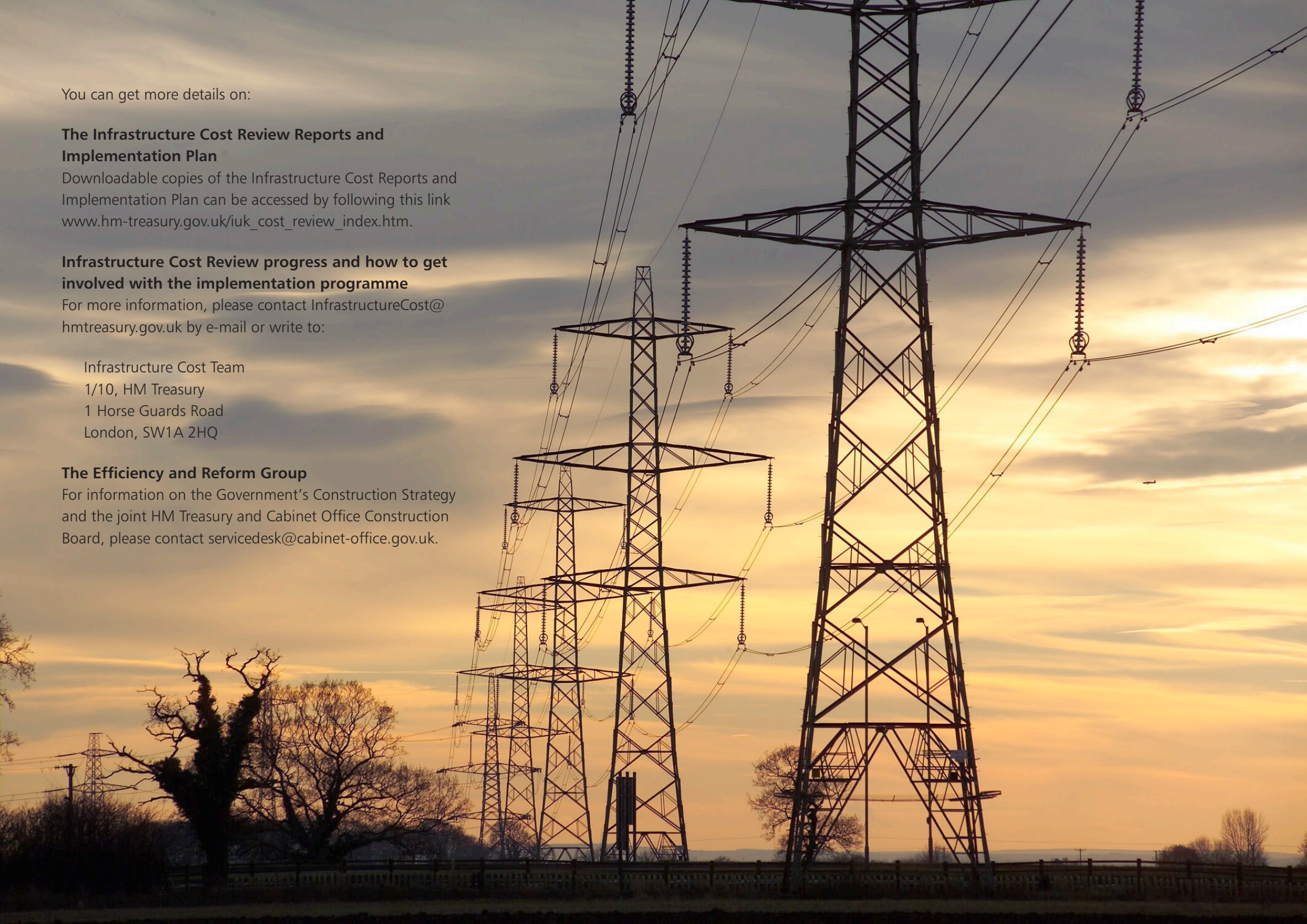
# The Charter commitments

**The Charter aims to change behaviours and working practice for infrastructure delivery. Government will seek to change behaviour to:**

1. provide improved transparency and certainty around the infrastructure forward programme;
2. group projects into more efficient longer-term programmes with clear outcome based objectives;
3. encourage innovation and allow for earlier and integrated supply chain involvement through improved competition and procurement processes;
4. seek the best whole life outcome rather than seeking the lowest cost for a given specification;
5. select supply chain partners on the basis of their ability to deliver innovative solutions set against transparent and affordable cost targets and long-term outcomes;
6. develop appropriate client technical expertise and intelligent commissioning capability and make better use of infrastructure data to support decision making and the setting of cost targets; and
7. create the environment for industry to invest in new technologies and skills improvement to deliver greater outcome-based efficiencies.

**Government will look to industry and its leaders to:**

1. improve the industry's coordination and communication with Government;
2. be proactive in supporting Government and infrastructure clients to develop and implement new models of procurement and other means to reduce costs and remove wastage;
3. develop long-term strategies to invest in innovation, training and improve safety, productivity and skills; and
4. promote industry collaboration and joint venturing as a means to improving efficiency and growth.

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing several high-voltage electricity pylons (transmission towers) in silhouette against a bright, hazy sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The pylons are arranged in a line, receding into the distance. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. In the foreground, there are some dark silhouettes of trees and a fence line.

You can get more details on:

**The Infrastructure Cost Review Reports and Implementation Plan**

Downloadable copies of the Infrastructure Cost Reports and Implementation Plan can be accessed by following this link [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/iuk\\_cost\\_review\\_index.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/iuk_cost_review_index.htm).

**Infrastructure Cost Review progress and how to get involved with the implementation programme**

For more information, please contact [InfrastructureCost@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:InfrastructureCost@hmtreasury.gov.uk) by e-mail or write to:

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**The Efficiency and Reform Group**

For information on the Government's Construction Strategy and the joint HM Treasury and Cabinet Office Construction Board, please contact [servicedesk@cabinet-office.gov.uk](mailto:servicedesk@cabinet-office.gov.uk).