

**SCOTTISH FREIGHT LOGISTICS ADVISORY GROUP (ScotFLAG) MEETING ON
3 DECEMBER 2009, 11:00HRS, VICTORIA QUAY**

Present: Alastair Wilson (Scottish Government, Transport Directorate) (Chair)
Gavin Scott (Freight Transport Association)
Phil Flanders (Road Haulage Association)
Maya Rousen (Scottish Enterprise)
Frank Roach (Highlands and Islands Enterprise)
Gillian Hastie (Transport Scotland)
Roland Stiven (Timber Transport Forum - Confor)
Margaret Horn (Scottish Government) (from item 5 of the Agenda -
Transport Scotland's rail freight policy consultation)
Pam Stott (Scottish Government)
Jim Heatherill (Scottish Government)

Apologies: Rab Dickson (NESTRANS)
Claire Keggie (Transport Scotland)
Gareth Williams (Scottish Council for Development and Industry)
Jim May (Scottish Government)

WELCOME FROM CHAIR

1. Alastair Wilson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He particularly thanked the following;
 - a) Gavin Scott for agreeing to give a presentation on the image of the industry;
 - b) Gillian Hastie for agreeing to give a presentation on Transport Scotland's rail freight policy consultation;
 - c) Rab Dickson for preparing the paper on Freight Quality Partnership activities in Scotland.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. With regard to the minutes of the previous meeting the following points were raised -
 - a) **Freight Best Practice** - Alastair Wilson again invited the group to offer any specific suggestions for coverage in Year 3 of Freight Best Practice (FBP). Pam Stott explained that AECOM will provide a list of options for Year 3 of the Programme (2010-11) in December so there remained a limited time for Group members to put forward suggestions. Roland Stiven suggested that a presentation on FBP may be useful addition to the Timber Transport Conference (although this will be occurring in the current financial year).
 - b) **SAFED for Vans training programme** - Pam Stott confirmed that project had been delivered and the trainer network had been set up.

The final report was expected from the consultants within the next month, and would be circulated to the Group in due course.

Action: Copies of SAFED for Vans report to be circulated to ScotFLAG members.

- c) **Scottish Government Freight Seminar** Following the success of the event earlier this year, the Group agreed that a further freight seminar aimed at local authorities should be arranged for the first quarter of 2010. After discussion Climate Change - in particular carbon emissions reduction - was agreed as a theme for the day. A sub-group (Maya Rousen, Pam Stott and Jim May) will oversee arrangements for the event.

Gavin Scott suggested contacting Marshall Poulton at City of Edinburgh Council to speak about his experiences of working with Freight Transport.

Actions:

- 1. Gavin Scott to approach Marshall Poulton about speaking at the seminar.**
- 2. Pam Stott, Jim May and Maya Rousen to meet to prepare timetable and take forward arrangements.**

- d) **Contingency Planning – Swine Flu** Group members confirmed communications arrangements were working effectively.
- e) **Group name** Gavin Scott asked the second line of the paragraph to be amended from 'Scottish Freight and Logistics Advisory Group (SCOTFLAG)' to 'Scottish Freight Logistics Advisory Group (ScotFLAG)'. Agreed by all.

CLIMATE CHANGE

3. Alastair Wilson reminded the group that the Scottish Government (SG) had committed to a 42% reduction in carbon emissions across the board by 2020. The Report on Policies and Programmes is due to be published by the summer of 2010 (and will be distributed to members).
4. Maya Rousen confirmed that Scottish Enterprise were working on a carbon calculator. Scottish Enterprise were considering carbon impact of proposed business developments.
5. Gavin Scott pointed out that there was a need to have an agreed system of measuring carbon emissions that was used by everyone. Maya Rousen suggested that the SG would need to lead on this to ensure that everything is kept in line with European standards. Alastair Wilson confirmed that work was already underway within the SG on this, including assurance of compatibility with EU and UK guidelines.

6. Gavin Scott suggested that he could speak with retailers regarding the targets. He suggested that a carrot and stick approach might be needed to get parties interested in recording emissions and reducing them, and asked what incentives existed for bodies working to meeting the targets, e.g. a scrappage scheme for lorries to replace the older vehicles funded by the UK Government.
7. Maya Rousen asked what other countries were doing with regard to reducing carbon emissions, as knowledge of their proposals could help formulate action in Scotland.
8. Alastair Wilson confirmed that road charging was not being pursued as a policy by the SG.
9. Phil Flanders commented that as things stand the freight industry will not meet their share of the emissions target. Car drivers would also need to do their part to assist in meeting the transport target, e.g. through car pooling. Improvement in rail freight conditions would also help the freight industry to meet the target.
10. The following suggestions were put forward as ideas to help develop a way forward:-
 - a) Priority traffic lanes
 - b) Draw on elements of the Freight Action Plan
 - c) Meeting with Marshall Poulton, City of Edinburgh Council
 - d) Informed choice by the consumer, i.e. details of the carbon emissions for the goods being purchased.
 - e) Actions need to be taken to get the public on side.
 - f) Transport Scotland Rail Freight Policy Consultation should generate some ideas.
 - g) Use the next SG Freight Seminar (now set for 15 March 2010), which will be attended by members of the freight industry and local authorities, to generate ideas.
11. It was suggested that a subgroup meet to produce a paper outlining all the ideas that are put forward to assist that might aid the SG to reach the carbon emission target. The subgroup would comprise of -
 - a) Chair - Gavin Scott
 - b) Members - Maya Rousen, Frank Roach, and Phil Flanders.
 - c) Possibly member from the SG Freight Team, if requested.

Action -

Subgroup to prepare paper on ideas that could help the Freight Industry assist the SG meet the carbon emissions target for the next meeting in mid-March 2010. It would, however, be useful if initial thoughts could be passed to SG by the end of February.

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND RAIL FREIGHT POLICY CONSULTATION PAPER -

12. Gillian Hastie gave a presentation on the Transport Scotland Rail Freight Policy paper, which is currently out for consultation. There was to be a short consultation period (ends 24 December) but extensions could be granted if requested. It was hoped there would be good feedback from all stakeholders and any other interested parties. At present it was proposed that the exercise be dealt with "in house" and might involve the use of consultants at some time in the future. The intention was that the output would be an action plan for Transport Scotland, SG and industry.
13. Frank Roach confirmed that HITRANS would be offering a formal response to the consultation. However, he had the following general observations to make about rail in Scotland:
 - a) Involves devolved and reserved issues that need to be fully understood.
 - b) The role of Network Rail in obstructing / facilitating rail freight growth had to be understood and addressed.
 - c) The SG as funder of the Rail Network needs to be more aware and informed about the capability of the network, as at present there is a lack of relevant data.
 - d) The need to recognise the disparity between the Road and Rail Networks and their respective roles (both complementary and competing) in the supply chain
14. Margaret Horn highlighted that a consultation had been issued by the Office of the Rail Regulator. Gillian Hastie said that Transport Scotland was aware of this consultation but that it was on the proposed changes to customer service contracts – it was hoped the suggested changes should make it easier to access the rail network.
15. In answer to a question from Alastair Wilson Gillian Hastie confirmed that the results of the consultation would be used to prepare a policy statement and an action plan for consideration by the Minister, and will feed into high level output specification (HLOS) in future.

LORRY PARKING RESEARCH (Short paper from Transport Directorate)

16. The paper prepared was circulated prior to the meeting.



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17. The Group agreed that a sub-Group should be set up to take this work forward in line with the timetable outlined in the paper. The Group will be chaired by Phil Flanders, with secretariat support provided by SG. Membership will include Gavin Scott, and a representative from Transport Scotland (possibly Lesley Stewart). Michael Cairns from Tactran will also be approached to participate.

- Actions -**
1. Subgroup to be established by Phil Flanders (chair).
 2. Gillian Hastie to arrange Transport Scotland representation on Group.
 3. Short paper submitted to ScotFLAG Spring 2010 meeting summarising activities to be undertaken and detailing a project plan

FREIGHT QUALITY PARTNERSHIPS - RAB DICKSON

18. The paper prepared by Rab Dickson and circulated to group members, gave an overview of the Freight Quality Partnerships (FQP) currently operating in Scotland.
19. Margaret Horn said that she saw the FQP document as being a regular discussion paper at future meetings. It was agreed that this would be helpful.
20. Gavin Scott confirmed that the Strathclyde Partnership Transport had employed consultants to look at consolidation centres in the Clydebank area.

Actions – RTP update paper to be standing item on future agendas

IMAGE OF THE INDUSTRY - GAVIN SCOTT

21. Gavin Scott gave a presentation on how the industry appeared to be seen by others. A copy of the presentation is attached below -



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on 3 Decemb...

22. Gavin Scott informed the meeting that the FTA had begun an exercise to mount a positive campaign on the industry's image. He explained that he had also prepared a discussion paper for the group and asked if they would complete the paper with their comments and views on the points raised. A copy of the paper is attached below:-



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23. Following the presentation Gavin sought initial ideas on how the image of the industry could be improved. The following suggestions were offered:-
- a) Open days at schools.
 - b) Specific advertising in the press, including the trade press.
 - c) Maintain the current relationship with the Transport Directorate to pass on information to other parts of the Government.

- d) Use the CPC training modules on customer care to raise drivers' awareness of how they should deal with customers and members of the general public.
- e) Community engagement meetings with the communities and environmental agencies to allow people to see what is involved in haulage operations and the efforts being made to reduce carbon emissions and contribute positively to local communities.
- f) Large amounts of goods travel by road. There is a need to encourage the use of modal shift and also to emphasise the green message on road logistics to give a true reflection of the facts.
- g) There is a need to make people aware of the whole of the retail industry, not just the haulage industry; the education system has a role to play here.
- h) Debunk myths about the logistics industry.
- i) How could the Freight Best Practice programme be used to help improve the image of the haulage industry?

AOB

24. No further business was raised.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 31 March 2010