

Tactran FQP Steering Group

Notes of Meeting held at Tactran offices, Perth on Friday 21 November 2008

Present:	Emily Dixon (ED)	Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group
	Iain Duff (ID)	Scottish Council for Development & Industry
	Phil Flanders (PF)	Road Haulage Association
	Michael Gale (MG)	Scottish Enterprise
	John Paterson (JP)	Montrose Port Authority
	Gavin Scott (GS)	Freight Transport Association
	Daniel Muir (DM)	Highland Spring
	Eric Guthrie (EG)	TACTRAN
	Michael Cairns (MC)	TACTRAN
Apologies:	Gavin Roser	TACTRAN Board Member
	Peter Donald	Arbroath & District Chamber of Commerce/ Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce
	Jonathan Padmore	Stirling Council

EG outlined the current status of the RTS, and freight schemes in the draft Delivery Plan and submitted for inclusion in the STPR. He also indicated that a revenue budget allocation of about £20,000 is available for feasibility work in the current year.

The draft Delivery Plan currently the subject of consultation with partner Councils is attached – there was general agreement that this formed an appropriate basis for developing the Freight Action Plan (FAP).

PF suggested a cautious approach to railhead developments in the region which could undermine use of existing terminals in the Central Belt.

MG commented that the demand for a Dundee Railhead had yet to be bottomed out.

PF suggested sharing results of the various freight feasibility studies between RTPs.
ACTION Tactran to discuss at RTP Lead Officers Meeting (EG).

JP enquired whether there had been any action on road improvements in Angus to Montrose port. EG noted that the draft Delivery Plan, prepared in consultation with Angus Council officers, includes proposals for these.

ED indicated that timber transport was discussed at S&TTTG meetings. EG commented that there was potential for timber movements through a freight railhead at Perth.
ACTION Tactran to organise a meeting with relevant interests in Perth freight railhead (MC).

MG informed the Group of a study undertaken by Colin Buchanan Consultants for SET three years ago. SE considers that transport is of increasing importance in the region and has formed a sub-group (or Regional Advisory Board) on transport. They intend to look at in the region of 20 companies where transport is a significant proportion of total costs (30% or more) and to identify transport issues for those companies. He welcomed contributions on this.
ACTION MG to provide further information and contact names for Regional Advisory Board and TACTRAN to approach with a view to involvement in the FQP Steering Group (MG/MC).

EG indicated that freight is likely to be an issue in the new Strategic Development Plan and Local Development Plan system.

ACTION Tactran to arrange meetings with Tayplan SDPA and Stirling Council LDP Strategic Planners (MC)

EG asked if there are any “quick wins” Steering Group members wished to identify for potential inclusion in the Delivery Plan.

PF raised the issue of overnight lorry parking and possible shared use of P&R sites. EG commented that existing sites were not designed for lorries but this could be taken into account in future Park & Ride developments.

JP commented that Montrose port catered for overnight lorry parking.

ACTION Tactran to scope out requirements for an overnight lorry parking survey (MC).

ID suggested undertaking a baseline desk top study. This could use the results of the Scottish Multi-modal Freight Study due for publication in January.

ACTION Bring back to future meeting for discussion following publication of Scottish Multi-modal Freight Study (MC).

EG raised the issue of the SEStran and TRI Dryport Project and suggested that the Group should support the project in principle.

ACTION Tactran to circulate Project proposal for comment (subject to approval by SEStrans) and report to Partnership Board on 9th December.

EG suggested that the Group liaise with partner Councils when they report on the FQP and Draft Action Plan to the next Tactran Board meeting likely to be in March/April.

Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be organised for mid January following the STPR announcement and expected publication of the Scottish Multi-modal Freight Study. Friday was convenient for all attending, though a 10.30 start would fit better with train times.

ACTION Tactran to circulate with possible dates for the next meeting (MC).