

Tactran FQP Steering Group

Notes of Meeting held at Tactran offices, Perth on Wednesday 4 November 2009

Present:

Phil Flanders (PF)	Road Haulage Association
Peter Noad (PN)	Scottish Enterprise
Gavin Scott (GS)	Freight Transport Association
Roland Stiven (RS)	Timber Transport Forum Project Officer
Paul Kyle (PK)	Perth & Kinross Council
Daniel Muir (DM)	Highland Spring
Eric Guthrie (EG)	TACTRAN
Michael Cairns (MC)	TACTRAN

Apologies:

Jonathan Padmore	Stirling Council
Emily Dixon	Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group
John Paterson	Montrose Port Authority
Matt North	Forth Ports
Gavin Roser	TACTRAN Board Member

1. Notes of previous meeting – 22 May 2009

Accepted as accurate.

EG reported that Tactran had contacted SEStran regarding the Lo-PINOT European Project but it had not been possible for Tactran to get involved in it.

2. Introduction of new ConFor Timber Transport Forum Project Officer – Roland Stiven

RS outlined his role with regard to timber transport throughout the UK and gave an update on current projects – see Appendix.

3. Scottish Multi-Modal Freight Locations Study

MC gave a summary of the Study as reported to the Tactran Board on 22 September. The Board had resolved to remit the Study to the Steering Group for detailed consideration and development of a response to Scottish Government on the Study conclusions.

GS commented that there was nothing really new in it.

PN stressed that there was a need for multi-modal solutions that were not addressed in it.

PK added that it did not adequately reflect the importance of the distribution sector and the role that rail could play.

EG expressed concern that the Study could undermine attempts to access European funding, etc. He stated that a response to Scottish Government from the FQP would be drafted and circulated to all Steering Group members for comment. It was planned also to discuss the study with the Ports of Dundee and Montrose which could not be represented at the meeting. The response would make reference to work commissioned by Scottish Enterprise and Tactran undertaken by Deltix consultants on rail access to the region's ports.

ACTION Tactran to draft response to Scottish Government and circulate to all members, and to organise meetings with Dundee and Montrose Ports

4. Initiatives Update

(i) Dundee Port Railhead

MC gave an update on a bid for European funding through ERDF Priority 3 for rail access to the port. This had proved to be unsuccessful as this Priority was not available for infrastructure projects.

PN commented that Scottish Enterprise was also bidding for this project as part of a wider Waterfront project and that the bid had successfully negotiated the first stage of the process.

EG commented that Tactran intended to take the project forward with Forth Ports, Scottish Enterprise and Dundee City Council.

ACTION Tactran to organise meeting with Forth Ports, Scottish Enterprise and Dundee City Council

(ii) Montrose Port Masterplan

EG outlined the background to the Masterplan study – the port's role as a secondary renewables location due to proximity to marine wind farm fields, re-instating capacity at the port, re-use of vacant land at the port and rationalisation of land at the Glaxo plant adjacent to the port.

EG also referred to previous discussions on regional collaboration of ports in marketing, etc.

PN referred to Scottish Enterprise's report on renewables in Scotland that identified Dundee as a primary renewables location.

(iii) Perth Railhead

PK updated the Group on the Perth railhead proposals.

EG offered to raise the issue with Network Rail.

ACTION Tactran to raise issue with Network Rail

(iv) Freight Consolidation Centres Study

MC indicated that the study being undertaken by JMP supported by TTR had commenced.

(v) Highland Spring rail connection

DM updated the Group on the proposals which are to be presented to the company's Board on November 5. there are issues regarding construction cost particularly drainage issues. It will require Government funding. EG indicated Tactran would support any such moves.

5. FTA Carbon Management Plan for the Logistics Sector

GS gave a presentation on the FTA's plan – see attachments and web link –

EG referred to discussions with Community Planning Partnerships for feeding into SOAs on defining the measurement of CO₂ emissions and the lack of a single methodology.

6. Freight Action Plan

EG commented that development of the Freight Action Plan had been delayed pending publication of Scottish Multi-Modal Freight Locations Study. However, this had failed to define any significant schemes for the region.

It was agreed that the Action Plan would comprise the following:

- Projects identified by the S&TTTG for the region
- Investigation of Park & Ride sites for overnight lorry parking
- Support of port development and rail connections
- Highland Spring rail freight connection
- Investigation of vehicle priority lanes

EG stressed the need to fit with Tactran's RTS Delivery Plan and added that £25,000 is available in the revenue budget for 2009/10 and 2010/11 financial years for the Action Plan. It was agreed that a contribution of £10,000 would be made to the Montrose Masterplan Study.

Any further input to the Action Plan from members of the Group would be welcomed.

7. AOB

PF commented about the south of Tay Park & Ride proposals and their possible use as a holding area when the Tay Bridge is closed to high sided vehicles.

It was agreed that Bill Martin, Perth & Kinross Council's Fleet Manager and member of the Scottish Freight Council, be invited to join the Group to represent waste movements.

8. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be organised for mid February before the Board meeting on March 16.

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

Timber Transport Forum Project Officer Update (4.11.9)

Timber Transport Conference

Proposed for late February or early March 2010.

Future of Strategic Timber Transport Fund

FCS have produced a review of the STTF to date, which will be published on web shortly. The TTF will produce a report to present the demand and need for a further round of funding, demonstrating the effectiveness of projects to date and highlighting the risks of not continuing the fund. The report will be the basis of lobbying over the subsequent months. Regional TTGs need to input ideas and examples of future work to this process. Draft Report in February 2010.

Timber miles and carbon footprint.

The TTF is tasked within the Scottish Forestry Strategy implementation plan with devising a simpler mechanism for calculating 'timber miles' in Scotland. This may be progressed alongside wider timber industry efforts to establish a standard process for carbon footprinting of timber products.

Timber SAFED /Driver CPC

In 2008 Scottish Enterprise and others in South Scotland prepare timber haulier training material relating to Safe and Fuel Efficient Driving and wider timber haulier practices. We are deciding how best to promote and deliver this training programme.

Profile raising

Positive promotion of developments in timber transport to forestry sector, local authorities, hauliers and the public. Keen to learn about RTIG contributions to this.

CTI/TCPS

Still working on clarifying exactly what process should be gone through to certify retrofitted or new installation of CTI equipment to trucks and trailers.

Agreed Route Maps

Process for updating these has been agreed. Longer term agenda to broaden coverage and link in with wider agreed routes, establish shared practice for using the information to improve infrastructure planning and investment, develop SATNAV media.

Code of Practice

Working group considering need to update.

LIFT/Logistics

Logistics in Forestry Transport software has been taken on by Tilhill to road test over next 6 months. Scottish Enterprise report on development due out shortly.

Red Diesel

Study proposed to clarify boundaries of Red Diesel use.

Website

www.timbertransportforum.org.uk

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