

Rail Council Meeting Thursday 27 June 10.00 – 12.00 20 Victoria Street, SW1H 0NB

T: 01892 526171
F: 01892 534989
www.logistics.org.uk



Hermes House
St John's Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN4 9UZ

Note of Meeting

1. Welcome and Housekeeping (see annex for conduct of meetings)

The Chair welcomed members and reminded all of Logistics UK's conduct of meetings.

2. Introductions

All members and staff introduced themselves.

3. Cross River Partnership 'Waterloo Freight Study'

Director of Cross River Partnership, Susannah Wilks, Sustainable Transport Project Manager, Ross Phillips and Project Officer, Sarah Meertens, presented to the Council their work on the Waterloo Freight Study.

Ross notified the Council that Cross River Partnership (CRP) is working with partners from the Great British Railways Transition Team (GBRTT), Network Rail and the Department for Transport (DfT), to unlock the logistics potential of an underutilised space beneath Waterloo Station.

Ross informed the Council that CRP would use this space to increase the number of zero-emission last mile deliveries in London from Waterloo Station, and trial how receiving parcels by dedicated rail freight services directly into Waterloo.

Susannah noted that 165 new green logistics jobs could be created from the Waterloo Freight Hub. These would include highly specialised cargo bike or walking couriers, depot managers, bike maintenance and servicing workers, with potentially hundreds of deliveries leaving Waterloo Station by bicycle, on foot or by small electric vehicle.

As well, Susannah reasoned that the Waterloo Freight Hub could contribute to a number of strategies and plans at the local, city and national level. Examples of these included the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy and Environment Strategy and the Department for Transport's Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain.

Members commented on the study that though cargo bikes are largely presented as the last mile solution, vans cannot be completely discounted. Their capacity is far greater and cannot be overlooked. This is irrelevant of cargo bikes growing in size.

Members also felt that CRP needed to be made aware of the potential of such a study and suggested it would be advisable for them to consider working with a FOC to understand this.

Susannah's, Ross's and Sarah's contact details have been sent out to the Council.

4. Logistics UK's wider activities

Senior Policy Manager, Alexandra Herdman, gave an update on Logistics UK's policy and public affairs activities.

Highlights included Logistics UK hosting the inaugural Sir James Whitehead Address on 19 June. This event brought together an audience of logistics leaders, policy makers and thought leaders to discuss the sector's political and economic landscape.

As well, at this year's Multimodal Conference, Logistics UK exhibited alongside hosting a packed conference programme at the Logistics UK Theatre, which included the launch of our Annual Logistics Report by Logistics UK Chief Executive, David Wells.

Senior members of the Logistics UK team also welcomed HRH The Princess Royal to the Logistics UK stand at Multimodal. Her Royal Highness spoke to Logistics UK's President, Philip Roe, and colleagues about industry initiative Generation Logistics, apprenticeships and driver training.

5. Safety Point

Senior Policy Advisor and Secretary of the Rail Council, Ellis Shelton, notified the Council that Rail Safety Week ran from 24th – 30th June. He informed the Council that Rail Safety Week is an industry wide and industry led initiative focusing on rail safety for all. It aims to bring rail safety to the forefront of people's minds across a dedicated week; keeping safety firmly in the spotlight and sharing ideas and best practice across industry colleagues.

Ellis presented to the Council Logistics UK's communications in support of the week.

Chair of the Rail Council, Neil Sime, informed members that they sit on the Freight User Forum – a forum formed to address issues such as safety. Neil confirm that they will report back to the Council after the forum's next meeting.

It was agreed by the Council that Logistics UK must amplify Network Rail's Safety Campaign.

6. Understanding the Logistics Sector's Infrastructure needs

Head of Cities and Infrastructure Policy, Jonathan Walker, presented to the group the beginnings of Logistics UK's work on the creation of a 'UK Logistics Network Map'. Jonathan noted that Logistics UK is planning to develop a visualisation of the UK's logistics network in order to create a simple overview of significant freight flows in the UK.

Jonathan informed the Council that they hope for this project to position Logistics UK as the leading industry voice on logistics' infrastructure needs. The purpose of the map will be to raise awareness and start conversations, which will be particularly important in a post-election period. Using existing data and modelling, the project aims to provide a clear visualisation of the main road and rail freight flows in the UK, with a narrative that discusses the contributory factors to these flows and where we feel either policy or

infrastructure interventions are needed to make the network function more effectively.

To ensure Logistics UK covers all of the UK, Jonathan confirmed that they will also produce maps for English sub-national geographies, as well as each of the devolved nations. These will highlight freight flows that operate exclusively within those regions or nations, as well as those which pass through – highlighting the area's position as part of a much larger UK-wide network.

The intention is to launch this project in early September to coincide with the two-week parliamentary window after the summer recess and before party conferences.

Members agreed that the manner in which this project is communicated needs to be both simple and understandable. As well, members informed Jonathan that there are relevant studies out there that try to replicate what this mapping project has set out to achieve. Examples of organisations that have carried out such research include Rail Partners, GBRTT and DfT.

Jonathan confirmed that he is contactable via email on jwalker@logistics.org.uk should members wish to share their views.

7. Future Energy Demand for Logistics

Ellis informed the Council that this initiative, encapsulated within the Freight Energy Forum Workstream 1: Analyse Future Energy Demand, recognises the criticality of transitioning to electric energy sources to ensure the sector's sustainability and resilience.

On methodology, Logistics UK is looking at two approaches. A top-down approach, using publicly available data, and a bottom-up approach, using more accurate data from members. Agreed with the Future Energy Forum, the starting point of the project will be to look at road transport, before building in data from other transport modes.

As for the next steps, Logistics UK is wanting to meet with representatives from each freight sector to agree assumptions. Conversations started with the Maritime sector (specifically with the ports) and the aviation sector before the 5th Future Energy Forum meeting took place on 15th May.

Over the summer, Logistics UK will be gathering data from our members to contribute to the Final Report, which we aim to publish around October/November time. All data will be anonymised within the template and Logistics UK ensures no company details are used.

Deputy Director – Policy, Michelle Gardner, will be the lead contact.

8. Discussion on 'All Mode Council'

While each mode of transport functions independently, they are all integral parts of the complex supply chain and contribute to the seamless flow of goods across the UK. For example, it was reasoned by members that, in discussing infrastructure bottlenecks and potential improvements, all stakeholders can advocate for initiatives that benefit the entire system.

Importantly, members felt that this meeting presented a valuable opportunity to explore intermodal cooperation and leverage the individual strength of each mode.

Ellis and Alex confirmed that they would provide an update on the All Mode Council at the next meeting of the Rail Council.

9. Objectives of the Rail Council

Ellis updated the Council on the objectives set in the first meeting of the year. These objectives were broken down into two categories.

On the first category, increasing engagement and influence, Ellis noted that one of the objectives set was for Logistics UK to meet with DfT on behalf of the Council to discuss rail and other relevant policy areas. He confirmed that Alex and him had met multiple times with Head of Rail Freight at DfT, Emma Richards. Emma has said that they will attend the Council at a later date.

In response to the Council agreeing that Logistics UK would attend all relevant APPGs in Westminster and table parliamentary questions, Ellis confirmed that he had attended every Rail APPG, providing an update of proceedings in eNews. As well, that both he and Alex had been working with Logistics UK's Public Affairs team to table parliamentary questions in the new parliament.

With regard to the last set objective, hosting an ad hoc webinar or workshop, the workshop Logistics UK had planned to host with GBRTT (Demystifying Rail Freight), had been delayed due to the General Election being called. We hope to reschedule and members will be updated when we have a new date.

On the second category, greater communication and collaboration, the first objective included liaising more frequently with the other modes through combined meetings, visits and webinars. One area we are working on is the All Modes event, which is being developed for 2025.

The last two objectives, building and maintaining relationships with other member associations, and sharing and celebrating members of the Councils industry successes, Ellis mentioned that he and Alex have frequent meetings with the likes of Rail Freight Group and Rail Partners, to ensure Logistics UK's key messages on freight are aligned. However, we do lack stories of success from our members. If members are willing to share these we can distribute via our communication channels.

10. AOB

Nothing was raised during AOB.

Attendees

Neil Sime (Chair)	Victa Railfreight Ltd
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Michelle Gardner	Logistics UK
Jonathan Walker	Logistics UK
Ellis Shelton	Logistics UK

Susannah Wilks
Ross Phillips
Sarah Meertens

Cross River Partnership
Cross River Partnership
Cross River Partnership

Anush Chitturi
Paul Garnham
Rob McIlveen
Marc Hurn
Nicholas Watson
James Tierney
Matthew Wright
Phil Aust

Camden Council
MSC
Mineral Products Association
VTG Rail UK
CEMEX
Maritime Transport
Freightliner
Day Group