

Scottish National Freight Council Minutes - January 2018

For the meeting held in:

**Best Western Garfield House Hotel
Cumbernauld Road
Stepps
Glasgow
G33 6HW**

on 17th January 2018

Chaired by Stephen Halleran

1 Introduction – Apologies and Personnel, Meeting Conduct and Form of Minutes

Apologies and Personnel were as noted under items 17, 18, and 19.

The Secretary explained the revised format of “guidance for conduct of FTA meetings involving members” as shown on pages 5 and 6 of the current FTA Policy Report.

2 Low Emission Zones in Scotland’s Cities

Stephen Thomson of Transport Scotland joined the meeting by Skype call and updated on and discuss with members progress towards introduction of LEZ in Glasgow in 2018 and in Scotland’s other main cities by 2020.

Stephen explained that a submission to Ministers and the Cabinet to include LEZs in the Transport Bill was being made with the aim to produce primary and secondary legislation with the aim to produce nationally consistent standards for LEZs for local authorities. An LEZ Delivery Forum in Glasgow is being established and FTA will be a member. The intention is to synergise this with the developing legislation. Importantly (and FTA had responded on this in the consultation) the enforcement of LEZs will be via Civil Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) rather than criminal prosecution (with its attendant O-Licence implications).

Remaining outstanding issues to be resolved include exemptions, phasing and lead-in times and sunset periods for certain vehicle types still need to be clarified. The intention is to begin with PSVs to begin with within a defined city centre area. FTA will continue to be involved at a national and local level on these issues.

3 Scottish Secure Parking Group

Stewart Hurry from Scottish Business Resilience Centre and William Millar from Transport Scotland Resilience outlined and discussed issues and proposals in relation to secure commercial vehicle parking. FTA will draw up a questionnaire with SBRC and Transport Scotland and circulate to Council for comment, prior to use with FTA members. This will then be used to feed into Police and Government where Ministerial interest now exists.

4 Secretary’s report (Scottish matters)

The Secretary updated members on:

- Report on discussions, outcomes and actions from meeting with Scottish Government Transport Minister.
- Report on Scottish Parliament Air Quality Inquiry and FTA evidence session.
- Scottish Apprenticeship Advisory Board – Defining an Apprenticeship Consultation: FTA Response
- A96 Corridor Study AECOM
- Nestrans Initial Assessment of Freight in Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire - Stakeholder Survey
- Scottish Lobbying Register
- ScotFLAG Urban Freight Policy Guidance document

5 Minutes of last meeting

These were accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Stephen Halleran, Seconded by Iain Hogg, William Tracey Group.

6 Guidance on conduct of FTA meetings

Members were briefed on the standards of conduct required at Association meetings.

7 Elections

Council elected Chairs and Vice Chairs, and its representatives and deputies to UK Councils for the FTA year beginning May 2018 as follows:

Chairman: Stephen Halleran, ADM Milling

Vice-Chairman: Alex McPhee, JW Suckling

UK Road Freight Council Representatives:

- Alex McPhee, JW Suckling

- Greg Paterson, BOC

- Graham Rennie, Bidfood

8 Emerging issues for FTA involvement

An opportunity for members to discuss emerging issues for FTA involvement, new developments and issues affecting performance and services.

Members reported issues with availability of DVSA test slots at ATFs. Also concern over the completion of Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route after liquidation of the main contractor Carillion. (It was reported that Balfour Beatty and Galiford Try were taking over the contract.)

9 Issues arising from UK Council on 9th November 2018, and attendance at UK Council 1st February 2018

Members were updated on the key issues surrounding DVSA's presentation on Earned Recognition and update on ATF testing. Also Automation in logistics and CO2 reduction target for road freight.

10 Secretary's report (UK matters)

Members were updated on issues including Brexit, UK budget, National Infrastructure Commission review of Freight, Earned Recognition, Review of the Guide to Maintaining Roadworthiness, Trailer registration.

11 EU Mobility Package

The Mobility Package is progressing through EU legislative processes. Members were updated on the progress of the package, and guidance sought on FTA's approach to discussions. The package includes measures on operator licensing for vans, cabotage, minimum wage, driving and rest times and tachographs.

Members present felt unaffected by the proposals on posting of workers, but supported FTA's proposed approach on driving and rest time rules as maintaining flexibility, but links to the secure parking issue as facilities are required. Members were opposed to the early roll-out of smart tachographs especially if applied to domestic operations and the presumption of a six yearly replacement rate was questioned.

12 Reform of UK HGV Road User Levy

UK Government has made a call for evidence to consider reform of the HGV Road User Levy. Members were invited to share views on the Levy scheme.

Members agreed with FTA's assessment that the proposed changes could make the levy significantly more complicated to deal with and could undermine its role in levelling the field with foreign operators. Further, it was felt that differential charging by time of day / week or trunk road used or engine standard would have little effect as many operators have no choice over the timing of their deliveries as they are 09:00 – 17:00 customer delivery requirements in city centres. Costs would be significantly changed but not behaviours unless customer demand patterns changed which would affect staff costs and be restricted by urban curfew times. Members felt that some form of discount for Longer Semi Trailers or Double Deck Trailers as they reduced mileages. Members were sceptical on what had been achieved by the levy.

13 London Direct Vision Standard and HGV Safety Standard permit scheme

Transport for London has published a consultation on the proposed Direct Vision Standard and an HGV safety standard permit scheme for those that do not meet the 1-star rating when DVS is introduced in London in 2020.

Members supported FTA's stance that the safe system is a welcome move away from the narrow focus on direct vision, but that it should focus solely on the vehicle and that drivers should not, for practical reasons, be included. Members were however not so keen on the London Lorry Control Scheme being used as the basis of the permit scheme. Members supported FTA's position that to obtain a permit self-accreditation should be used to minimise bureaucracy and cost in the same way as operators agree to undertakings for operator licensing.

14 Road Investment Strategy (RIS) 2 future investment in England's roads

Due to time, the consultation on this and the English Major Road Network were not covered.

15 Any Other Issues Raised by Members

None.

16 Dates of next meetings

The remaining 2018 meetings of the FTA Scottish National Freight Council will be held at the Garfield House Hotel commencing with a buffet lunch at 1200 on: **28th March, 13th June, and 31st October.**

17 Present

Allan Campbell, Road Transport Services
Allan Hughes, Menzies Distribution
Pat Taggart, Falkirk Council
Paul Hinds, John G Russell
Chris Seagriff, Berendsen
Stuart Holmes, Forth Ports
Stephen Halleran, ADM Milling
Ian Moir, Marshalls
Frederick Strachan, Babcock International
Alex Sterrick, Lowmac Waste & Recycling
Billy Gibson, Paper Shredding Services
Tracy Cochran, Tesco
Susan Wood, Caledonian Logistics
Iain Hogg, William Tracey Group

18 Apologies

Stewart Ferrie, Royal Mail
Craig Chirrey, XPO Logistics
Sandy Duff, Scottish Water
Alex McPhee, JW Suckling
Carl Olufsen, Markon
Andy Beattie, NAS
Ian Fleming, CJ Lang
David Rodger, GAP Group
Gary Gates, Travis Perkins
Stephen Ferns, Royal Mail
Greg Paterson, BOC
Mark Cameron, Malcolm Group

19 In Attendance

Stephen Thomson, Transport Scotland
Stewart Hurry, Scottish Business Resilience Centre
William Millar, Transport Scotland
Neil Sturrock, SPT
Chris MacRae, FTA
Mags Simpson, FTA
Fiona Bartels, FTA
Andy Jones, FTA