

Tuesday 5 March 2024 10:00 – 13:20

Weightmans LLP, 103 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 3AG

Chair

Mike Jones Veolia

Secretary

Tom Griffith Logistics UK

Speakers

James Ashford Brigade Electronics
Chris Powell Weightmans
Rob Beckers Metropolitan Police

Members

Daniel Brooks Suez
Alan Riding Biffa Waste
Nina Camm North Kesteven District Council
Michael Jones Suez
Mark Forster Biffa Waste
Michael Colbourne Veolia
Tim Stephens Severn Waste
Hayley Starbuck Biffa Waste
Andrew Burgess Cox Management Services
Dominic Newby MDJ Light Bros

Logistics UK Staff

Martin Candish
Dan Crutchington

Virtual Attendees

Fergal McGorman Bryson Recycling
Lara Drury West Suffolk Council
Hailey Cluff Lampton 360

Apologies

Ben Grundy Casepak
Rick Marson Saica Natur
Paul Campbell South Ribble Borough Council
Allan Key Cox Management Services
Robert Fraser Recycling Lives
Dan Smyth Lampton 360
John Hole PHS
Chris Demetriou London Borough of Islington
Aileen Monahan Bryson Recycling
Stephen Townsend Grundon
Peter Tod JG Pears

1. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, MEETING CONDUCT, COMPETITION LAW COMPLIANCE AND GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed members to the Waste Forum working group and introductions were made. Every attendee introduced themselves, and the formalities such as the location of toilets, smoking areas and planned fire drills were covered in the slide deck.

The conduct of the Logistics UK meetings was noted. The Secretary gave an overview of the guidance of conduct for Logistics UK meetings, full details of which can be found attached to the agenda, with a particular focus on the discussion being minuted, and reminding members not to discuss any competitively sensitive information.

This was the second waste forum working group where a trial hybrid format took place, using Microsoft Teams. It was agreed in advance with those attending remotely should have their cameras on where possible, but if any virtual attendee wanted to raise anything, they could do so when, or by raising their hand on the Teams function.

The Chair reminded the group that the sharing of best practice between members encouraged the best discussion and enabled members to get the most from the meetings.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The group approved the minutes from the previous meeting in September 2023.

The Chair covered the matters arising from those previous minutes, in particular the item relating to traffic encounters from a vehicle examiner. The Secretary advised that the member who raised this query was advised of DVSA's response back in September, so the situation was to be monitored and there had been no further issues. The Secretary also highlighted how a previous concern of a member regarding annual vocational driver licence renewals from the age of 65 didn't reflect the later retirement ages and general health of the wider population, which was passed onto DVLA's policy team where it sits on the agenda of their Fleet User Group, so this was a good example of potential positive actions resulting from raising concerns in these working groups. The Secretary included some statistics from Network Rail on bridge strikes, following member requests after the subject was discussed in detail in September 2023's meeting. The agenda that was sent out in advance included a list of actions from the previous meeting which were completed and those that are still ongoing, which was also presented in the slide deck to accompany the meeting.

3. LOGISTICS UK TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW

The Secretary asked members of the waste forum to review and finalise the Waste Forum working group Terms of Reference, which were included in Annex A of the agenda, and included in the slide deck.

The review followed an internal meeting between all Secretaries of Logistics UK working groups, and lay out the group format, meeting frequency, rules around chairing the meetings, and membership of the group. Members were given the opportunity to put their name forward if they are interested in chairing the meeting from March 2025, or to become Deputy Chair, as the group does not have that position filled.

ACTION:

- **ANY MEMBERS WHO WISH TO BECOME CHAIR OR DEPUTY CHAIR TO PUT THEIR NAME FORWARD AHEAD OF SEPTEMBER'S MEETING. IF THERE ARE NO**

NOMINATIONS, THE CURRENT CHAIR WILL CONTINUE IN THE ROLE. IF THERE ARE MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS, A MAJORITY GROUP VOTE WOULD TAKE PLACE.

STATUS: TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

- **THE SECRETARY TO ENQUIRE AS TO WHAT PERCENTAGE OF LOGISTICS UK MEMBERS ARE COUNCILS/LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND TO RAISE PROFILE OF WORKING GROUP WITHIN LOGISTICS UK MEMBERSHIP TEAM TO THESE MEMBERS, AND OTHERS WITH AN OBVIOUS INVOLVEMENT IN THE SECOR.**

STATUS: ONGOING:

- **RAISED WITH LOGISTICS UK MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS MANAGER 06/03/2024.**

4. GENERAL SAFETY REGULATIONS AND THE DIRECT VISION STANDARDS: JAMES ASHORD, BRIGADE ELECTRONICS

James Ashford, National Manager of UK Connected Service at Brigade Electronics presented information on the General Safety Regulations (GSR) and the update to the Direct Vision Standards (DVS) with the implementation of the Progressive Safe System due in October 2024, and how the two sets of requirements compare. Members requested at the previous meeting that the DVS was added as an agenda item, so the Secretary thought this would be a useful presentation.

Members had the opportunity to ask questions, which included questions over whether GSR compliant vehicles automatically comply with the DVS, how smaller operators may fare with the costs involved, concerns over system maintenance requirements and calibration, driver training considerations over differences between different vehicles manufacturers equipment, and whether any faults would result in the vehicle being off-road.

ACTION:

- **THE SECRETARY TO SEND LOGISTICS UK BRIEFING NOTE ON DVS ALONGSIDE MINUTES.**

STATUS: COMPLETED 07/03/2024.

5. MOCK PUBLIC INQUIRY: CHRIS POWELL, WEIGHTMANS

Chris Powell, Principal Associate from Weightmans LLP offered members of the Waste Forum working group the exclusive opportunity to attend one of their mock public inquiries on 20 June 2024, with a venue to be confirmed dependent on the number of attendees. This opportunity will provide members with an insight to the seriousness of being called to a public inquiry by replicating a real-life scenario, such as a bridge strike.

Chris also discussed the processes members have when notifying the Traffic Commissioner, how Traffic Commissioners operate across the country, and driver conduct hearings.

ACTION:

- **ANY MEMBERS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN A MOCK PUBLIC INQUIRY ON 20 JUNE 2024 TO NOTIFY THE SECRETARY BY 30 APRIL.**

STATUS: ONGOING.

6. ROAD SAFETY SEMINAR: ROB BECKERS, METROPOLITAN POLICE

Rob Beckers, Police Sergeant in the Roads and Transport Policing Command, Commercial Vehicle Unit, Metropolitan Police presented to the group, after a member of the group asked to hear from them following a talk they heard at the 2023 Road Transport Expo. The Secretary arranged for Rob to share information they include as part of their Road Safety Seminar, which is available across the country, and covered informative and thought-provoking subjects such as collision response, load security and driver welfare.

One of the members of the working group had already experienced the road safety seminars and endorsed them.

ACTION:

- **HAVE ANY MEMBERS CONTACTED METROPOLITAN POLICE?**

STATUS:

- **ONGOING: UPDATE TO BE PROVIDED AT SEPTEMBER MEETING.**
-

7. UK PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

The Secretary covered some recent consultations or call for evidence that have been released that affect the waste sector, as well as any that have recently closed or any that have had an outcome published. Some consultations, the links to which are on the accompanying slide deck, sent to the group since September's meeting include:

- Mandatory digital waste tracking from April 2025.
- Simpler recycling: additional policies consultation.
- Electrical waste: reforming the producer responsibility system consultation and call for evidence.
- Waste Carrier, Broker, Dealer system reform October 2023 outcome.
- Consistency in household and business recycling in England outcome.
- Household waste recycling centres: DIY waste disposal charges and booking systems outcome.
- CPC changes consultation government response.

ACTION:

- **THE SECRETARY TO MONITOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT CONSULTATIONS THAT ARE RELEVANT TO THE WASTE SECTOR AND NOTIFY MEMBERS UPON THEIR RELEASE. RESPONSES CAN BE INDIVIDUAL ON BEHALF OF MEMBERS, OR A GROUP RESPONSE COULD BE MADE IF THERE IS THE DESIRE AMONGST MEMBERS.**

STATUS: ONGOING.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Secretary gave each member the opportunity to raise any items they wanted to discuss.

One member suggested there was a desire for the waste forum working group to produce a best practice document specific to the waste industry in relation to the prevention of bridge strikes, in a similar fashion to how SITA were involved in the wheel security best practice guide from 2009. The member explained how it would be beneficial to have Logistics UK involved in the process, whilst the speakers from Weightmans and the Metropolitan Police said they would be happy to be involved and endorse any guide the group produce.

Another member raised their concern over disposable vapes, vehicle fires and maintaining alternatively fuelled vehicles. The Secretary asked if a member would be willing to share their best practice, policies or safe systems of work in relation to vehicle fires, like Veolia did with the bridge strike subject in September. The Secretary also advised that Logistics UK had a briefing note on working safely with alternatively fuelled vehicles, which would be sent out alongside the minutes, but advised that the previous meeting involved a presentation from two local authorities around their experiences of operating alternatively fuelled vehicles, the slides of which were available on the Logistics UK website.

The Secretary advised the group on the upcoming changes to the landfill tax rates from 1 April, the five hours of training requirement for the category B concession for alternatively fuelled vehicles, and Logistics UK's Compliance Report 2023, which would be sent alongside the minutes.

The Secretary advised that the next meeting was booked for Thursday 19 September 2024 at Lunaz Technology, Silverstone Technology Park, NN12 8FU, so asked members to keep the date clear, with an invite to be sent closer to the time once the agenda has been confirmed.

The Secretary took the opportunity to thank everyone for attending, as well as the speakers for delivering such interesting presentations.

ACTION:

- **THE SECRETARY TO FIND OUT WHETHER LOGISTICS UK WOULD SUPPORT AND ENDORSE THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH A DOCUMENT.**

STATUS:

- **ONGOING: MEETING WITH RELEVANT POLICY LEADS AND HEAD OF COMPLIANCE INFORMATION DUE IN MARCH 2024. FEEDBACK WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE MEMBERS IN DUE COURSE, BUT THE BRIDGE STRIKE SUBJECT TO BE ADDED AS AN AGENDA ITEM FOR SEPTEMBER'S MEETING.**

ACTION:

- **SEND OUT WORKING SAFELY WITH ALTERNATIVELY FUELLED VEHICLES BRIEFING NOTE ALONGSIDE MINUTES.**

STATUS:

- **COMPLETED: MARCH 2024.**

ACTION:

- **ANY MEMBER WILLING TO SHARE BEST PRACTICE/SAFE SYSTEMS OF WORK IN RELATION TO FIRES IN COMPACTION VEHICLES TO NOTIFY THE SECRETARY AHEAD OF SEPTEMBER'S MEETING.**

STATUS:

- **ONGOING**

ACTION:

- **SEND OUT LOGISTICS UK COMPLIANCE REPORT 2023 NOTE ALONGSIDE MINUTES.**

STATUS:

- **COMPLETED: MARCH 2024.**

ACTION:

- **MEMBERS TO KEEP 19 SEPTEMBER CLEAR, WHERE POSSIBLE, FOR NEXT MEETING. SECRETARY TO SEND INVITES OUT BY THE END OF AUGUST.**

STATUS:

- **ONGOING.**