

East Midlands Freight Council – Minutes 17 January 2019

Minutes of the East Midlands Freight Council meeting held on 17 January 2019
Novotel Nottingham Derby

Chair

Bob Sands

Prompt

Council members

Tony Foster

Foster Logistics Consulting Ltd.

Ross Baxter

Alliance Healthcare

Michelle Scott

Total Compliance

Lucy Durrant

Total Compliance

Davy Barnett

Industrial Water Jetting Systems Ltd.

Richard Black

PDRS Ltd.

Lisa Williams

Sports Direct

Carl Hughes

Hughes Driver Training

Joe Kirby

Erewash Borough Council

Sarah Phesant

Alloga UK

Gary Tomlinson

Central England Co-op

Kevin White

Serco

Tim Eaton

Flogas Britain

Andy Stephens

John A. Stephens Ltd.

Pam Burrows

Bolsover + Northeast Derbyshire District Council

David White

Ashfield District Council

Ian Bowater

United Biscuits

Mark Bailey

WB Power Services

Mandy Gill

CPL Petroleum

Paul Buck

VP PLC

David Seaton

NFT

Martin Farrand

Petit Forestier

Paul Vernon

Brakes Group

Alison Lawton-Devine

Tarmac

FTA Staff

Chris Yarsley

Jim Mower

Ally Salter

Apologies and Minutes

Apologies were recorded, and the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as the true record of the meeting. The meeting was reminded of FTA's policy on the conduct of meetings on commercial confidentiality.

Matters Arising

Members were given a report on the discussions at UK Council on Thursday 7 February.

Secretary's Report

Members were given an update on the following points:

- MAC Webinars – members were informed that Webinars would now replace Free Briefings through the year.
- MRN Review – members were given an update on the latest developments, following FTA submission to consultation paper.
- FORS Review – members were given an update on developments as the concession for FORS comes up for renewal and what FTA has fed into the review, to ensure real separation between standard setting and commercial operation of the scheme.
- Direct Vision Standard (DVS) – members were updated on the latest on implementation of DVS in London.
- HGV Testing – members were updated on the latest developments between FTA and DVSA on the issue of vehicle testing and how well DVSA is performing.
- EU rules for vans – members were updated on news that elements of Operator Licensing will be extended to vans operating greater than 2.8tonnes, following amendments to the EU Regulation.

Vehicle Operator Licensing (VOL) – Priorities for development

Members held a discussion on the VOL system and what they would like to see happen to improve it.

One suggestion would be that there should be a 'view only' capability for Transport Managers to access to ensure all the information on the system is correct. This would eliminate the need to print off documents and send them to the staff. There was a wish to see a notification of the latest changes and also be able to view the whole system before you need to fill in all data sets. One improvement would be to have a portal for submitting entries and receiving notifications that was not linked to a specific person in case of long-term sickness. The point on the need to submit a newspaper advert was raised as an increasing difficulty.

Ultra-low and zero emission roads/zones

Members were given an update on developments on ultra-low and zero emission roads and zones that were appearing across the country. Members were not aware of any such developments in the East Midlands region. There was a desire to have more joined up work between local authorities to ensure that compliant fleets could be used in all parts of the country. Members also gave experiences of issues surrounding the take-up of vehicles that would be compliant with these zones and also in general, especially on the expansion of the number of charging points available for commercial vehicles.

Coastal shipping and port disruption

Members were given an update on the item but there was no further discussion on the point.

Brexit preparedness

Members were asked to give examples of their preparations for Brexit. Members gave examples of new caveats in contracts with dealerships for whole vehicles and parts that costs will be passed on to members in case of any imposition of tariffs and duties. The issue around availability of warehousing was raised as well as the logistical issues faced by the fresh food importers.

FTA Yearbook

Members had a discussion on the use of the Yearbook and any improvements they would like to see. It was noted that there would be a wish to have the ability to print off whole sections for technicians, rather than need to give whole book.

Elections of Council Representatives and Deputies

The following members were elected to sit as formal representative of the Council at UK Council.

Richard Black; Bob Sands; Carl Hughes; Peter Bond; Pip Bains

Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 3 April at 0800.