



Freight Transport Association

East Midlands Freight Council

Minutes of meeting held 25 October 2018
Village Hotel, Brailsford Way, Long Eaton

Chairman

Allison Kemp

A.I.M Commercial Services

Council Members

Mark Hadley

Antalis

Lisa Williams

Sports Direct.com Retail

Gary Bingham

A.I.M

Dayle White

Clarke International

Bill Hooten

Pladis

Paul Vernon

Brakes

Martin Ferrand

Petit Forestier

Bob Sands

Prompt

Pip Bains

Culina Group

Christopher Sprigg

Agrovista UK Ltd.

Peter Bond

Serco Ltd

Kevin White

Serco Ltd

Michelle Scott

Total Compliance

Lee Mansell

Tarmac

Curtis Wright

Central England Coop.

Gary Tomlinson

Central England Coop.

Ross Baxter

Alliance Healthcare

Sarah Pheasant

Alloga UK

David White

Ashfield District Council

Pam Burrows

Bolsover + NorthEast Derbyshire DCs

Robert Slade

Holdsworth Foods

Davy Barnett

IWJS Ltd.

Dave Parsons

Kier Services

Paul Clarke

CEMEX UK Operations Ltd.

Guest Speakers

Paul Davison	AECOM
Amanda Mushing	Highways England

FTA Staff

Chris Yarsley
Jim Mower
Ally Salter
Alisa Watson
Sally Gilson

Apologies and Minutes

Apologies were entered and the Minutes of the last meeting were taken as tabled. The meeting was reminded about the FTA's policy on conduct of meetings.

Matters Arising

Council was given a report on discussions at the 5 July 2018 UK Council.

Secretary's Report

Council was updated on developments under the following points:

- FTA internal plans for Councils – Council was given an update on the new look Policy Report and also on future plans for the organisation of meetings.
- Brexit –FTA reported on the latest developments on Brexit.
- Clean Air Zones – FTA gave members an update as to the latest developments across the UK with the introduction of CAZs in different cities.
- Industrial Strategy – Members were given an update on FTA submissions to two consultations as part of the Industrial Strategy: Future of Mobility, and The Last Mile.
- Severn Crossing – Members were updated on the decision to remove tolls from the crossing in December 2018.
- Trailer registration and Driving Licences – FTA updated members on the latest news regarding how to apply for registration documents for trailers and also on the possible need to apply for International Driving Permits for driving licence recognition post Brexit.
- Budget 2018 – Members were updated on the latest news, including the confirmed freeze on fuel duty rates.

Presentation from AECOM/Highways England

Members received a presentation from AECOM/Highways England (HE) on their 3yr stakeholder engagement project. There is a keen desire to increase the level of professional knowledge of the freight sector within HE, complementing the already existing knowledge of the industry that is held by HE Traffic Officers at the roadside.

HE is keen to engage with both operators and drivers to understand the freight industry's need for the infrastructure in terms of road network but also MSAs and driver facilities available along the roadside.

After highlighting the various schemes and training programmes available (e.g. DCPC course on Smart Motorways) HE gave members their contact details and appealed to members to get in touch with them to participate in interviews and consultations to pass over views.

Members gave their views on the 3 lane WIM system being installed on the motorway.

Items for Discussion

Changes to DVSA Sift Policy and HGV Enforcement Targeting

Members were given the latest information on DVSA plans for enforcement and future sifting of vehicles, whereby all Green rated vehicles would be given a full check and only Blue-rated Earned Recognition (ER) operators would be allowed to carry on.

On the first paper, members felt they wanted greater transparency on the enforcement figures. Smaller operators cannot afford to join ER, especially with a lack of any tangible 'benefits'.

On the second paper, it was felt roadside officers and then drivers both needed education/training on this however members generally felt it was a positive development for sifts to count to OCRS as this would help with their overall score.

Access to EU Workforce

Members were given an overview of the recommendations of the MAC Report, commissioned by the government, that set out a possible migration scheme for the UK in post-Brexit era.

Members were informed that a Briefing Note on the Settled Status scheme would be produced shortly.

Maximum Weights and Dimensions of HGVs

Members received a report on the status of the Longer Semi-trailer (LST) trial, whereby it appears to be that the environmental case has been proven by the results of vehicle journeys saved by the use of these trailers. Some members are now looking to renew their existing LST fleet and need to be reassured that the life of the new trailer will exceed the length of the trial, scheduled to end in 2024. FTA has now asked that the trial is brought to an end and for the trailers to be moved into general haulage and members agreed the evidence spoke for itself.

Some members active in the aggregate sector gave comments on the possible links to rail freight movements.

Abnormal Loads

Members were given a presentation of HE plans to start charging for the route planning of abnormal loads, to ensure waterborne transport was used in place of road transport wherever economically possible.

Priorities for legislative change after Brexit

Members agreed with the list of issues in the Policy Report. Other issues mentioned included ensuring that all roadside enforcers were also equipped with smart tachograph devices that were able to read the signals being sent from the new devices.

Lower Thames Crossing presentation

Members received a presentation from the Lower Thames Crossing body that explained how the proposed new infrastructure will benefit operators based in the Midlands, with better and more secure road connections to the channel ports. Members had some comments on the development and were directed to issue them in the formal public consultation that was on-going at that moment.

AOB

There were some questions on the London Direct Vision Standard.

UK Council Attendees

Allison Kemp; Pip Bain; Richard Black

Date of next meeting – 17 January 2019