

# Greater London Freight Council Minutes

**Thursday 10 January 2019  
Amba Charing Cross Hotel, The Strand  
London, WC2N 5HX**

## **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

- The meeting was chaired by Mike Colbourne from Veolia.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
- Roundtable introductions were made, and guests were welcomed.
- It was announced that Denise Beedell will be taking on the role of Secretary for the Greater London Freight Council from this meeting onwards.
- Members were reminded by the Secretary about new guidance on competition law compliance. Full details can be found on page 10 of the Policy Report.

## **REPORT FROM UK COUNCIL**

- Members received a report back from discussions at UK Council on 8 November 2018 including changes to DVSA sift policy and HGV enforcement targeting; maximum weights and dimensions of HGVs; and priorities for legislative change.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

- Members received a Secretary's report which included an update on the FORS review; independent testing; availability of HGV annual tests; immigration white paper and labour shortage categories; driving licence derogation for alternatively-fuelled vehicles; ongoing EU discussions on Operating Licencing for vans, minimum wage requirements for drivers, and drivers' hours/tachograph rules; abnormal loads.
- Members reported that there is some improvement with vehicle testing, several members reported ongoing problems with testers not attending appointments and having to travel long distances to obtain tests. There was also a report that information on OCRS reports is not matching the information about the test results provided by the testers.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **Direct Vision Standard (DVS)**

- Members received a briefing from Lucy Kosenko, Engagement Specialist, Consultations and Projects at Transport for London (TfL) on the DVS and Safety Permit Scheme and had an opportunity for Q&A.
- Members were informed of a six-week consultation on proposals for the DVS with a particular focus on the HGV safety permit process as well as consultation event on 1 February. The consultation closes on Monday 18 February and can be accessed [here](#).
- Members were urged to apply to vehicle manufacturers for their star rating using the contact details provided on the TfL [website](#) and to respond to the consultation. Comments from members were welcomed to help inform FTA's response to the consultation.
- Fines will be the same as the London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS) of £550 for the operator and the option to also charge the driver £130. Lucy was asked in situations where non-compliance was a clear driver issue, such as when equipment had been fitted, but the driver had switched it off, if it would be possible to fine only the driver. **ACTION:** Lucy agreed to take this point back.

- Council members flagged concerns about the certainty of the progressive safe system as operators are now procuring vehicles to operate beyond 2024, and they also had concerns about the feasibility of retrofit and running out of plug-in points for the new equipment.
- For operators running national fleets, who want full flexibility of where they deploy their vehicles, it was pointed out that they would be retrofitting their whole fleet, not just a London fleet and as such, there were significant costs involved.

## **LONDON ITEMS**

### **G1 London Consultations**

- Members were updated with details of the state of consultations across London, including responses from the boroughs to the Mayor's Transport Strategy, Zero or Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Zones, city plans from Westminster and the City of London Corporation, a new scheme for Oxford Street District and proposed vehicle access restrictions on Tooley Street.
- Members agreed to keep FTA informed about relevant local consultations, and to feed in their thoughts and comments.

### **G2 Draft London Plan – Examination in Public (EiP)**

- Members were updated on the EiP of the draft London Plan and given details of amendments following the FTA's request to extend the remit of the 'Agent of Change' principle to include other nuisances apart from noise, such as dust and odours.
- FTA will be submitting a written statement ahead of the EiP and the Association has been invited to give evidence at the Freight session in March.

### **G3 TfL Freight Action Plan**

- Members were briefed on the development of TfL's Freight Action Plan, which is due to be launched in early 2019.

### **G4 Lower Thames Crossing consultation**

- Council was briefed on the FTA's response to the consultation, which closed on 20 December 2018.
- Members were requested to feedback any information about the impact of the proposed crossing.

### **G6 Heathrow Sustainable Freight Group**

- Members were updated about FTA engagement with the Heathrow Sustainable Freight Group regarding setting of standards for freight vehicles.
- Concerns were raised by members about cost benefits.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **A1 Vehicle Operator Licensing – Priorities for development**

- Members were briefed about the Vehicle Operator Licensing (VOL) online system and asked what priorities for future development. Suggestions included:
  - Ability to submit required local advertisements without using a paper system
  - Move to mirror PSV electronic systems for other vehicles
  - Transfer of Transport Manager O-Licence to another depot without having to take them off and put back on
  - Schedule 4 transfers
  - Consistency of documents – currently original and certified papers related to finance are being required

## **A2 Ultra-Low and Zero Emission Roads/Zones**

- Members were briefed on the current FTA stance regarding Zero and Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Roads/Zones.
- Council endorsed FTA approach.
- Members' comments included:
  - There are issues about how authorities communicate proposals and details about their schemes and notice periods are too short to make changes in time
  - Standards for compliance are not applicable to large vehicles
  - Manufacturers are rolling back orders for new vehicles; members report a national supply shortage for Euro VI and hybrid vehicles
  - Local authorities are focused on on-street charging, whereas the industry often needs capacity for simultaneously charging a number of vehicles at depot
  - Clarity is required around the 4.25t derogation for Alternatively Fuelled Vehicles (AFVs) allowing them to be driven on a category B car driving licence
  - Members would like a single online portal requiring schemes to be communicated in a similar format including postcodes
  - Concerns were raised that boroughs may introduce restrictions to Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) such as refrigerated trailers

## **A3/4 Ports/Coastal Shipping**

- No comments from Council members to the meeting about FTA plans for developing a new policy study to influence the DfT's broader Maritime 2050 agenda.
- Members were updated about the work underway to resolve congestion at container ports.
- Council members did not report any problems.

## **A5 Brexit -update; and discussion of preparedness**

- Members were asked for feedback about any preparedness work they had carried out ahead of Brexit and if there was any other help FTA could provide for members, beyond advice already shared.
- One member reported they were considering moving away from Dover/Calais to use other ports. The challenge is the time critical nature of using other ports, particularly for time-sensitive and perishable products, which can add an extra 4-5 hours on routes and may require double-manned operations.
- There were general concerns about the limited number of permits available and that the permit allocations will need to be decided in a timely fashion. It was reported that some manufacturers will not provide a certificate of compliance until the permit has been granted, because it is a complicated process, which involves the International Freight Office.
- There was a particular concern about the lack of process defined for how the certificate of roadworthiness will be issued and more information was required about what to do if no licence has been obtained for journeys between UK and EU.

## **Greater London Freight Council Meeting in October**

- **ACTION:** Members agreed to send suggestions for appropriate venues for the October meeting to DB ([dbeedell@fta.org.uk](mailto:dbeedell@fta.org.uk))

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Member Advice Centre (MAC) Webinars**

- Members were informed about the new webinars replacing face to face briefings. The sessions in January and February will cover an overview of new and existing legislation expected in 2019 and updates to important documents, including the Guide to Maintaining Roadworthiness. Further information about the sessions is available on the FTA [website](#).

## Change to roadside payments

- Members were advised that from Tuesday 29 January 2019, the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) will no longer take payments by chip and PIN – fixed penalties will need to be paid using a secure payment portal instead. The change is intended to reduce waiting times.
- When DVSA's enforcement staff issue a fixed penalty, the nominated payee will be asked to provide an email address or telephone number. A unique code and link to the payment portal will then be sent via email or text. By following this link, the nominated payee can use their code to enter payment details; on-site enforcement staff will receive a text confirming payment, and the vehicle will be released as soon as any other outstanding issues have been resolved.
- FTA has been advised that UK drivers will still have 28 days to pay and there will still be the option to pay via the Contact Centre (phone up and give your CC details). The only time DVSA thinks it may be an issue is if the vehicle is immobilised, but in this case the payment is usually the least of the issues.
- There were no additional comments from members.

## FTA Road Transport Law Book

- Members were asked for their feedback about the FTA Road Transport Law Book (aka The Year Book). Comments included:
  - It is widely used and extremely useful
  - It would be useful to know what has changed since the previous edition
  - The hard copy is valued, but it would be better to have it in an e-book format rather than section by section download, and to have a user-friendly search function.
  - A better index with greater detail would be helpful in the hard copy

## ELECTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN, REPRESENTATIVES TO UK COUNCIL AND DEPUTIES

- All current position holders and representatives agreed to continue for another year.
- Council unanimously elected the following representatives to serve until end of January 2020:

Chairman	Mike Colbourne	Veolia
Vice Chairman	Mark Pearce	Bidvest Logistics
Vice Chairman	Ray Govier	DPD
Road Freight Council Rep 1	Mike Colbourne	Veolia
Road Freight Council Rep 2	Mark Pearce	Bidvest Logistics
Road Freight Council Rep 3	Ray Govier	DPD
Road Freight Council Rep 4	Bill Cox	Powerday
Road Freight Council Rep (deputy)	David Wilson	D W Consultancy
Road Freight Council Rep (deputy)	Norman Harding	London Borough of Hackney
Rail Freight Council Rep	<b>vacancy</b>	
British Shippers' Council Rep	<b>vacancy</b>	
Road Freight Council Chairman's List	David Higginson	ADM Milling Limited

## DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- Thursday 4 April, London Marriott Hotel County Hall
- Thursday 20 June, London Marriott Hotel County Hall
- Thursday 17 October, venue TBC

## **ATTENDEES**

### **Chairman**

Mike Colbourne

Veolia

### **Members**

Dave Adams  
James Adcroft  
Helen Barker  
Sarah Bell  
Richard Clarke  
John Cowdell  
John Crosk  
Diana Drummond  
John Ganvey  
Ray Govier  
Norman Harding  
Steve Levison  
Justin Lochhead  
Peter Lomas-Smith  
Tony Murphy  
Rob Nicolaou  
Mark Olden  
Mike Oliver  
Peter Parle  
Mark Pearce  
Dave Pitt  
Trevor Ross  
Jim Valentine  
Lucy Vaughan  
Jerry Ward  
David Wilson  
Amanda Zambon

London Borough of Newham  
Tesco  
Hermes  
UPS  
O'Donovan Waste Disposal  
AS Miles Consulting  
Brewery Logistics Group  
Art Logistics Ltd  
RMS  
DPD  
London Borough of Hackney  
Siemens Financial Services  
Ryder Ltd  
Travis Perkins  
J Murphy & Sons  
Howdens Joinery  
Murphy Plant  
BLM Solutions  
FM Conway Ltd  
Best Food Logistics  
Grundon Waste Management  
Wincanton  
The British Shop  
Veolia  
John Lewis Partnership  
Fleet Technology  
DHL

### **Guests**

Sarah King  
David Smith  
Lucy Kosenko

FSB  
Construction Plant-hire Association  
Transport for London

### **Staff**

Denise Beedell  
Natalie Chapman  
Dom Fawls  
Christopher Snelling

Policy Manager – Vans and Urban  
Head of South of England and Urban Policy  
Membership Relationship Manager  
Head of UK Policy

### **Apologies**

John Blakeley  
Mick Dearle  
David Higginson  
John McDaid  
Andy Miles  
Robert Presnell  
Paul Smith  
Charlie Stanford

GAP Group Ltd  
Martin-Brower UK Ltd  
ADM Milling  
McGrath Group  
AS Miles Consulting  
London Borough of Lambeth  
Serco Ltd  
CEMEX UK Operations