

TIMBER TRANSPORT FORUM MEETING 30 JAN 2003
SILVAN HOUSE EDINBURGH

NOTE OF MEETING

Present: I Forshaw, P Wilson, D Eaglesham, R Evans, J Farquhar, R Scott,
P Sherrington, A Speedie, D Sulman, D Henderson Howatt, A Angus, J Miller,
B Hudson, S Paxton

Apologies: A McVeigh, I Ross,

Agenda Item

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| Matters Arising | <i>Regional Transport Groups in England</i> ; A.A. to make contact and visit a.s.a.p.
<i>Nettle Application</i> ; European Application to be re-submitted. David Killer will be asked to produce Review of Docks and Jetties in Scotland. (Gill Clark to be involved)
DS to contact Gordon Little.
<i>Roads Research Update</i> ; Data being finalised. Awaiting response from solicitor on use of Red-Diesel. Will attend next meeting.
<i>Project Officer Recruitment</i> ; Anne Angus took on the role from 1 st January 2003. A.A. was welcomed. |
| Project Manager Report | A.A. gave a resume of her Induction Programme to date. |
| TTF Wales | A.A. and A.S. in attendance at meeting on 28 th January 2003.
A.S presented on Agreed Routes
Logistics Study into Timber Haulage: Bid to Welsh Development Agency for 50% funding. FIDC to “front” bid.
Exchange information with Unitary Authorities.
Possibility of Project Officer in p/t or f/t role.
Complaints and Problem Solving Procedure to be set up.
Rondwood Haulage Launch to be included in forthcoming courses.
Seven boats have now journeyed from Swansea to Finland.
Changes in transport patterns as Shotton is losing intake of Roundwood.
A.S.highlighted the progress being achieved by PS and the Welsh TTF. |
| Roundwood Haulage | RS reported 7000 copies now at Printers.
A.A. to manage Distribution.
Launch 11 th March 2003.
Press release documents produced within FC.
AS raised the areas of monitoring and audit.
BH suggested six monthly reviews. |

Thanks expressed on behalf of the Industry to FC and SE for contribution of funds, to RS for the achievement of the production of the Code of Practice and to SP for accessing financial support with launch.

Ministerial Meeting PW and AS reported on a positive meeting. The Strategic Waste Fund had been used as an example of a method whereby sustainable development could be promoted. There was an understanding and appreciation of present situation. AS emphasised that money would not be foe Roads Authorities internal roads. It would be a Partnership solution to enable problem –solving. The Agreed Routes Map is starting point. COSLA supportive. DH stated that a question would be posed on the topic at Question Time, Scottish Parliament on 6th February 2003 by Alistair Ferguson. JF showed concern that there should be no confusion between Local Transport Strategy applications for funding and Strategic Funding for Timber Transport.

The Task;

Make the case for creation of a Strategic Timber Transport Fund; emphasise the need for concrete outputs.

Work up details of how such a fund might be created including scoring criteria; priority to be given to projects of lasting benefit.

It was agreed that IF, PW, AS and A.A. would form a sub-group to take this forward, reporting back to the Forum. Any Forum members would be welcome to attend these meetings.

The sub-group would assess the requirement of input from Consultants.

It was clear that objectivity was important in the production of the recommendations.

Existing internal information should be submitted to A.A. 15th February 2003

A.O.B. Data Integration/Mapping: AS volunteered Roads Manager From D&G to lead this project.

Ownership of Code of Practice: It was agreed that FIDC “own” the code of practice.

Freight Facility Grants: DE explained that the recent comments re the suspension of Freight Facility Grants apply only to England. The Scottish Executive continue to administer grants.

JM outlined the current state of the Haulage Industry, highlighting the effects of high fuel prices on the operation. DE discussed the Scottish Road Haulage Modernisation Fund.

RS BH and JM to put Running Costs Index on web site.

Thanks expressed to SP for his contribution to the Forum. The members were impressed by his great enthusiasm. SP replied that he had enjoyed his time working on The Forum.

Date of next meetings:

Thursday 1st May 2003

Wednesday 16th July 2003