



## WAREA ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the QUARTERLY MEETING

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

#### Meeting held on MS TEAMS

**Present:**

Scott Walker (Chair)	S.W.	North Lanarkshire Council
Sarah Abbott	S.A.	Netomnia
Vincent Addo	V.A.	Hyperoptic
Caroline Auld	C.A.	Network Rail
Stuart Black	S.B.	Stirling Council
Nick Brett	N.B.	Openreach
Stephen Brady	S.B.	Lothian Broadband
Kevin Burns	K.B.	Inverclyde Council
Michael Casey	M.C.	Royal Mail
Douglas Campbell	D.C.	SPEN
Martin Cochrane	M.C.	Amey
William Collins	W.C.	Stirling Council
Lesley Craig	L.C.	Renfrewshire Council
Mark Crichton	M.C.	Openreach
Ian Dalrymple	I.D.	Openreach
Karyn Davidson	K.D.	Vodafone
William Doyle	W.D.	Petroineos
Alan Falcon	A.F.	Openreach
Julie Greig	J.G.	SGN
Jim Forbes	J.F.	CityFibre
Lauren Goodman	L.G.	Bear Scotland
Ross Gray	R.G.	SSEN
Barry Hall	B.H.	GTC - UK
Jason Halliday	J.H.	o.S.R.W.C.
David Hearty	D.H.	MBNL-EE/3
Lindsay Henderson	L.H.	oSRWC
Alan Houston	A.H.	East Dunbartonshire Council
Ian Houston	I.H.	BEAR Scotland
Anna Jensen	A.J.	Netomnia
Cathy Jones	C.J.	Netomnia
Glen Jones	G.J.	Hyperoptic
Matthew Jones	M.J.	Lastmile
Claire Kirkpatrick	C.K.	West Dunbartonshire Council
Shaylyn Landman	S.L.	ESPUG

**Present continued:**

Brian Mcateer	B.McA.	Energetics - UK
Jordan McDonald	J.McD.	CityFibre
Fiona McInnes	F.McI.	Scottish Water
John McCulloch	J.McC.	Balfour Beatty
Craig McQueen	C.McQ.	Scottish Water
Andrew Matheson	A.M.	Virgin Media
Jim Moran	J.M.	Lothian Broadband
Chris Murray	Ch.M.	Sky
JJ Van Grann	JJ,V,C.	Lumen Technologies UK
John Walker	J.W.	Lothian Broadband
Clare O'Brien	C.O'B.	Argyll and Bute Council
John O'Neill	J.O'N.	Netomnia
Simon O'Neill	S.O'N.	Broadway Partnership
Katrina Quane	K.Q.	Scottish Government (TS / SG)
Shannon Riley	S.R.	Amey
David Ross	D.R.	BEAR Scotland
Wendy Ross	W.R.	Amey
Alistair Schofield	A.S.	North Lanarkshire Council
Ruth Scott	R.S.	SSE Telecom
Callum Stewart	C.S.	Glasgow City Council
David Thomson	D.T.	SPEN
Peter Walton	P.W.	Lumen

**In Attendance:**

George Borthwick	G.E.B.	Secretary to RAUC(S)
Peter Houston	P.H.	Transport Scotland
Robert Young	R.Y.	Scottish Government

**Apologies:**

Greig Barker	G.B.	Stirling Council
Jillian Donaldson	J.D.	Renfrewshire Council
Owen Harte	O.H.	Virgin Media
Steve Ives	S.I.	Concept Solutions
Mamadou Jalloh	M.J.	North Lanarkshire Council
Brian Mcatear	B.McA.	Energetics
Brenda McDonald	B.McD.	Inverclyde Council
Carole McDonald	C.McD.	CityFibre
Amanda McFarlane	A.McF.	Indigo Pipelines
Graeme McLaren	G.McL.	Renfrewshire Council
Tom Murphy	T.M.	Argyll and Bute Council
Craig Stewart	C.St	East Dunbartonshire Council
Steven Tilson	S.T.	Zayo

## **1. Welcome, Attendance and Apologies**

Scott Walker welcomed all to the meeting of the WAREA RAUC. This meeting was being held on MS TEAMS.

Apologies were recorded as listed above.

### **a. UCI Cycling World Championships Peter Houston (Transport Scotland)**

The Championships with 13 events will be held at various locations across Scotland (Fort William in the north to Scottish Borders / Dumfries and Galloway in the south) over 11 days between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August. The budget for the Championships is £56m and is supported by various Organisations including Scottish Government.

The events are staged at off road venues and on roads with full closures and rolling closures as required. The different events are being organised by Managing Companies and some are more advanced than others in the planning.

The Men's Elite Road Race starts in Edinburgh (during the Festival) then travels from the Capital over the Forth Bridge into Fife then west ending up with several laps of Glasgow Town Centre finishing at George Square.

The events in Dumfries and Galloway (Para cyclists) are held on rural routes with full closures and several problems are being encountered (herd of cows requiring to be moved for milking).

In Glasgow the roads used for the events are covered by closures but will be available for overnight access.

No additional parking is being provided and the emphasis is on travel to the sites by public transport, cycling and walking.

The Trunk Road embargoes are Registered as 27<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August. Where emergency works are needed on any roads a request will be needed for access but it is appreciated that access may be required.

The slides will be circulated following this meeting and these give more detail of the events, locations and arrangements which have been made to date.

If there are any queries contact should be made with Peter who will endeavour to answer them.

J.G. noted that information on Communication Contacts were now becoming available.

More information is available on: -  
[www.cyclingworldchampionships.com](http://www.cyclingworldchampionships.com)

Scott thanked Peter for his presentation.

**b. A9 Reinstatement Trials Report**

**Ian Dalrymple (Openreach)**

Ian introduced the paper on the Appendix 9 Trial on cold lay material reinstatements which is being carried out in Perth and Kinross. The trial is being carried out in collaboration with Openreach, Perth and Kinross Council, o.S.R.W.C. and Viatic.

The Trial was to look at the viability and benefits of carrying out permanent cold lay material reinstatements. These could be covered in the following categories: -

**Infrastructure**

- Reduction in damage to the road structure
- Quick restoration of the road.
- Less material waste.
- Lower costs.
- Reinstatement in any weather conditions.

**Environment / sustainability**

- Reduce carbon footprint with less transport runs.
- Ability to reinstate in varied weather conditions.

**Speed of construction**

- Reduction in disruption to road users allowing efficient management of the network.

**Innovation**

- Use of new materials and methods to produce the best results with approved / accredited quality materials.

**Background – 15/10F Alternative and 30/14c Alternative**

To prove that these materials, although not HAPAS approved, are fit for purpose in carrying out permanent reinstatements.

These products are produced by Viatic in a modern asphalt plant type matched to BSEN13108 asphalt mixes.

Viatic indicates that it has similar performance to HRA and is mixed when required on site using cold water.

The trial covers footway and carriageway reinstatements. One completed carriageway site has been reinstated with half cold lay and the other in hot lay asphalt to compare the performance of both materials.

The presentation listed the sites which had been reinstated in the trial with photographs indicating the finished reinstatements.

The joint faces are pre-primed and the overband tape is ironed onto the surface of the joint. Sections of the overbanding have failed and lifted off on some sites.

One reinstatement has failed with a short crack having formed in one corner.

The recommendation will be that the material trial is extended to larger areas to increase the trial of the material on carriageway reinstatements in particular.

Scott indicated that as previously reported, North Lanarkshire had received funding to develop a Carbon Calculator and data from the Appendix 9 trial may be used in the review. Out with that project S.W. would respond to I.D. in relation to adopting the trial within NLC.

### **c. Broadband Rollout Update**

**Robert Young (Scottish Gov)**

The R100 Programme is a Scottish Government initiative to connect as much of the country to superfast broadband. Delivery is in 3 parts:

- i. Commercial Deployment by telecoms operators without government funding
- ii. Scottish Government Main Contract, in three lots, is being delivered by BT/Openreach, and makes up most of the 114k premises to be connected, almost exclusively using Fibre to the Premise technology.
- iii. Scottish Government Superfast Broadband Voucher Scheme (SBVS) in which telecom operators can claim up to £5k to connect approved premises (not in R100 or commercial operators plans) using their own infrastructure, with Fibre to the Premise technology, fixed mobile, fixed wireless and satellite solutions. There is over 60 registered suppliers

In March R.Y. wrote to all Council Roads Leads advising them of deployment plans for 2023 and asking them to contact him (Robert.young@gov.scot) or the Deployment Managers Steve Wicks (stephen.wicks@gov.scot), Neil MacGrain (neil.macgrain@gov.scot) and Nik Gowrie (nik.gowrie@gov.scot) if they have any significant issues with the deployment.

## **2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023**

### **a. Accuracy**

The minutes of the last meeting of the WOS Area RAUC held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 on MS TEAMS were approved as read.

#### **b. Action Tracking Summary**

The comments on the actions from the previous meeting are contained in the updated Action Tracking Summary.

### **3. Written Reports from Local Co-Ordination Meetings / Clusters**

#### **Glasgow / Renfrewshire**

A general discussion took place with the following issues dealt with: -

- Programmed major works and roads affected.
- Scottish Water reported an issue with SRWR Gazetteer with Road / Reinstatement Types apparently being wrongly recorded in some locations, This is being investigated by G.C.C.
- Discussions with BT ongoing with regards to enforcement of TTRNs/TTROs.

#### **East Dunbartonshire / North Lanarkshire**

A general discussion took place with the following issues dealt with: -

- There was a request from S.U.s for more photos to be attached to Notices when reporting defective apparatus.
- Discussed the size of reinstatement required on roads still under restriction as there was inconsistency. The RA's had earlier agreed on a 15m single lane requirement as a standard approach (accepting the exemptions outlined within the CoP).
- Scottish Water raised the issue of valve chambers being chocked with debris during resurfacing works. This will be raised at RAUC to inform the Community of the problem. **Action – S.W.**
- National coring in the South West is complete and invoices are due to be issued.

#### **Stirling**

A general discussion took place with the following issues dealt with : -

- Upcoming UCI Cycling Championships likely to cause large disruption within central Scotland and embargo routes are being recorded on Register. (Note also Agenda Item No 1a.) Programme information from all Organisation is requested for any works they are considering in August.

#### **WoS Local RAUC (Inverclyde / Argyll and Bute / West Dunbartonshire)**

A general discussion took place with the following issue dealt with : -

Reference was made to Agenda attachment No. 3b.

Openreach had defect failures in Argyll and Bute dating back to 2017 which had been the subject of discussion since 2020 without the required action. An Improvement Notice was issued in 2022 and while some progress was made there was an acceleration needed to complete the list.

Openreach pointed out that several of the sites were on the Islands and arranging material and coping with the ferry disruptions was causing problems.

Argyll and Bute wanted the matter remitted to the next RAUC(S) meeting to get the support of the Community and the Commissioner.

Openreach are planning to have the list dealt with by the end of July at which time the Inspectors will have signed the Notices off.

It was noted that while the Cat A inspections were poor the Cat C results were above 90%.

Monthly meetings were taking place for the standard programme and 6 weekly meetings were being held for the R100 Programme. Along with monitoring the sites with defects and the new sites, the staff time required was greater than available,

The matter will be remitted to RAUC(S).

**Action – S.W.**

Openreach will endeavour to accelerate the work on the defect sites and will be increasing supervision to improve work on sites going forward.

**Action – Openreach**

Following a suggestion from J.G. that the work on the Islands would be a good place to extend Appendix 9 cold lay material trial. C.O'B. and I.D. will discuss this proposal. **Action – C.O'B. / I.D.**

#### **4. Matters Arising from RAUC(S) Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**

The previously circulated Minutes of the meeting were taken as read with the following comments: -

- A full presentation was given on the UCI Cycling World Championships.
- A draft Advice Note titled Joint Inspections and Recovery of Costs was discussed, The A.N. covers the inspection and subsequent agreements for sites which require discussion prior to works commencing. The document could be used where the existing road was in a poor condition and agreement was needed on the reinstatement. The Advice Note was agreed and will be published on the Web Site
- The meeting noted that the quality of the Gazetteer was improving but R.As had work to do on the ASD to accord with the SDTF 4 requirements.
- The Committee noted that Julie Carnell (Fife) had joined the Inspections Working Group **Action – Secretary**
- The Commissioner presented a catalogue of slides showing poor signing and guarding at sites throughout Scotland. These had been taken during the previous 2 or 3 months and was considered to be possibly the tip of the problem. The Commissioner will comment further on this issue.
- The RAUC(S) Representatives on the HAUC UK review of the Red Book will be Ewan Hogg (Falkirk Council) and Robert Manson (Vodafone) The other Scottish Representatives are Kat Quane and Lindsay Henderson and Martin Polland.
- The HAUC Infrastructure Group are working on English topics but considering Scottish aspects where relevant.

- Street Charging Points is a subject which needs to be discussed and policies agreed both North and South of the Border. Hopefully there will be common agreement.
- TAG – an R.A and S.U. Representative is required. S.W. will speak to the Secretary offline. **Action S.W.**
- The Commissioner is recommending that Stop Start Notices are recorded on the Register using the App which is available.
- Noticing Failures have risen steeply for both R.as and S.U.s.
- All R.As must ensure that where appropriate Cancelled Inspections are cancelled on the Register.
- The requirement for R.A Supervisors and Operatives to hold Accreditation was introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.
- The requirement for Stop / Starts to be recorded on the Register within 2 hours was introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.
- The SROR will be introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 but will hopefully be published at an earlier date to allow familiarisation and training.
- S,G,N, indicated concern that South Lanarkshire was now requiring payment for Temporary Traffic Signals up front. There was a discussion on this matter and the two parties will be in discussion to find a way to deal with the problem.

P.McK. will contact the South Lanarkshire Head of Service and discuss the matter.

The Committee noted that other Authorities were considering the same system as part of online charging for services.

- The Secretary was asked to revise the Working Group Membership Schedule to reflect the following changes to the Representatives: -

Ian Hay and Ken Hickson are no longer on SAT and Carole MacDonald is leaving City Fibre so may no longer be a SAT member.

C.O'B. commented that Carole would be missed on the team.

## 5. Government and S.R.W.C. Reports

### a. Scottish Government Report

The previously circulated papers were taken as read with the following comments from K.Q.: -

Progress is ongoing on the introduction of the various sections of Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 and the batch diagram had been updated to reflect the changes introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and going forward.

- The updated batch diagram has been circulated. There is now an approximate timeline of commencement and regulation over 2023 – 2024. Legal issues for the introduction of compliance legislation including Compliance Notices and Compliance Officers is currently ongoing to be in place later in 2023. VAULT is likely to be mandatory from April 2024. Some provisions may come in earlier –



e.g. settling the status of vault plans. These changes will require a review of Advice Notes 1 & 5 with updating as required.

- After the current batch (above), dealing with Compliance Officers (Authorised Officers), Compliance Notices and Vault is in place, the final batch, (FPN review) will begin. This includes the key commitment to linking FPN value to an index, to keep the level of FPNs relevant.
- The Annual Fees consultation will take place later in the year. The existing two year Instrument will revert to an annual Instrument. RAUC(S) members will, as is custom, be specifically invited to respond and are encouraged to do so. The consultation may contain some additional road works issues to be consulted on. The electronic format allows you to ignore a question but all should indicate they are not responding with “No response” or equivalent comment. This will assist in the analysis of the responses.

#### Ministerial Codes

- The SROR was submitted to the Minister for Transport and the RQP Code will likely follow after the summer recess.
- The UK wide Safety Code (Red Book) and Diversionary Code (Matters Necessary etc) will be submitted to a similar process in due course when the respective reviews are completed.
- The HAUC UK review of the Safety Code has begun, with RAUC(S), oSRWC and Scottish Government representation on the panels. Following the HAUC UK review, the DfT ‘formal review’ will be carried out. Their version will require the Ministers of each devolved nation to assess the document individually. It is essential that in consultations RAUC(S) is able to form a view on the finalised document and feed in any concerns via the working group.

#### Scottish Parliament Changes

- Mr. Humza Yousaf MSP was appointed as First Minister of Scotland in March. As the former Minister for Transport and Islands, he was the Reviewing Minister for the Barton Report and therefore takes to post a background knowledge of road works legislation.
- Mr. Kevin Stewart MSP was appointed as Minister for Transport.

*Post Meeting Comment – Mr. Kevin Stewart resigned and has been replaced by Ms. Fiona Hyslop*

#### **b. Performance Dashboard**

Lindsay Henderson reported as follows: -

##### **Annual Performance Reviews**

The Reviews will be sent out to the Primary Contacts and the Chief Executives by the end of May. Organisations with poor performance will be asked to respond with their comments on the relevant issues raised by the Commissioner.

##### **Dashboard**

The SRWR 2022/23 Q4 dashboard which was issued at the end of April 2023 was taken as read.

Inspection indicators have been added to the dashboard and a decision on inclusion within the existing monitoring process will be made during the reporting year.

Indicators targets for 2023/24 remain unchanged.

### **Start/Stop 2 Hour Registration**

The Legislation changed on 1 April 2023 to require a Works Start/Stop notice to be recorded on the Register within 2 hours of works starting / completing. This is being monitored.

The Commissioner is extremely disappointed to observe a significant increase in noticing failures across the whole community. Non-compliance levels increased for Roads Authorities and Utility companies to 8% and 11% respectively. Those Organisations with unacceptable levels of failure have been contacted and asked to provide guidance to their operational teams and to date 10 out of 21 Organisations have provided a response. Monitoring of this increase will continue monthly.

The Commissioner would like to remind Organisations that the SRWR Works Promoter App is the recommended method of recording these notices. Uptake of the app remains low, with only around 7% of applicable notices updated using this option since 1 April. If your organisation is not using the App they are asked to review their arrangements.

### **Commissioner Improvement Plans**

The following 4 Organisations, namely, Axione, CityFibre, Lothian Broadband and SGN are still on plans with all continuing to provide positive improvement and engagement with this process.

The next Improvement plan submissions are due on the 14 July 2023.

### **Policy and Quality**

#### **Reinstatement Quality Plans**

Out of the 56 undertakers 40 have now had their ROPs approved. The approved plans cover approximately 99% of all works undertaken. The Commissioner would like to thank all for their efforts in achieving this level of approval.

This still leaves 16 undertakers which do not have approved RQPs. The Commissioner would like to remind undertakers that they will be committing an offence if they undertake works in the Road without an agreed plan.

### **Safety / Technical Standards**

#### **Compliance Officers**

Drafting of a Code of Conduct and associated Job Outlines has commenced. The Commissioner's intention is to undertake recruitment by the end 2023.

In preparation for Compliance Officers starting, the oSRWC is trialing the use of dashcams to capture sites from moving vehicles. Non-compliant Organisations will be issued with compliance notices where failings are identified. Initial trials have found significant non-compliance, both with regards to sites not having valid notifications and those with non-compliant TM.

There was some concern raised about this method of inspection and how it accords with the current Codes and Advice Notes.

This is currently a trial and further comment will be made as the process is developed.

### **Research Project – Service Life of Reinstatements.**

The research project on Service Life of Reinstatements has been complete and the report approved by the Scottish Road Research Board. The Report will be published on the SRRB website in due course and a presentation will hopefully be arranged for a future RAUC(S) meeting.

### **SROR Review**

The SROR Ver. 5 text was approved at RAUC(S) in February. The Commissioner has now passed the document to Transport Scotland with the recommendation that it is published as soon as possible for implementation from 1 October 2023.

The TAG group met in April 2023 and the Commissioner's office Representative had been omitted from the invite. The omission was noted by the Group and rectified. Invitations will be sent out for the next meeting. There is therefore nothing to report.

The Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice (red Book) Review by HAUC UK has been commenced with R.A., S.U., oSRWC and Transport Scotland Representatives from Scottish Community involved. The Scottish Representation is provided by: -

Lindsay Henderson oSRWC  
Kat Quane Scottish Government  
Ewan Hogg Falkirk Council  
Rob Marsden Vodafone

Safety bulletins still being sent out as and when they arise by RAUC(S) secretariat.

The oSRWC Newsletter will be issued in due course.

### **d. SRWR Report**

Jason Halliday reported as follows: -

#### **Prescribed Fees and Amounts**

Invoices for the Prescribed Fees and Amounts 2023/24 were issued on 1 April 2023. To date approximately £720k out of the £950k total, (from 64 of the 98 Organisations) has

been collected. Payment is due by the 31<sup>st</sup> May and reminders will be issued to the slow payers. If payment is not received by the due date the use of the Register can be withdrawn.

### **Sharing SRWR Logins**

During a recent audit Symology noticed suspicious usage of the Vault system, with a single user logging in and out multiple times a minute. This raised concern that someone was attempting to extract data - a misuse of their access to Vault. Following investigation, it was discovered that this anomaly was due to a large number of individuals sharing a single login to the SRWR which is in breach of the SRWR Terms of Use.

The Commissioner reminds all users their login details must not be shared. Each individual must have their own login to the system. An organisation can have as many unique logins as they need. Logins found to be used by multiple individuals will be deactivated.

### **Non-corporate email addresses**

As a result of the above misuse, the Commissioner has been reviewing the policies relating to who gets access to the SRWR. The security of the system is dependent on Administrators only giving access to users they recognise as working for their organisation or their contractor.

To prevent access being given to a third party not affiliated with an organisation the SRWR will no longer accept users email addresses from non-corporate systems e.g. those from Google, Hotmail, Yahoo, AOL etc.

Members expressed concern about this issue because in the rural and Island areas very small businesses, in some cases just a family are employed. In these situations, the use of a corporate address could be difficult to manage. This would need to be considered by all organisations. Existing users will be reviewed.

**Action - All**

### **Vault Update**

Symology will be circulating a 4 phase plan describing changes to the Vault service that will allow: -

- The display of BT data on both the SRWR Aurora web interface and the SRWR Vault Mobile App.
- Update the asset symbology used to allow asset owners to highlight assets which pose a higher risk.
- Regroup the assets by type (e.g. Electricity, Water, Gas, etc.) rather than the organisation providing the data.

These changes will need users of the SRWR Vault Mobile App to update the software on their devices. Data providers will also be required to identify the type of each asset in their submission (particularly the R,As who should be providing S109 asset information).

## **VAULT Usage**

The oSRWC has noted that some Organisations are using VAULT as the prime source of plant data rather than applying for plans directly from asset owners. While this is the long term aim of Vault it is at this time only be used to identify which Organisations have assets in the area.

Until asset owners have approved Vault for this use, detailed plans should be sought from the asset owner directly, prior to commencing excavations.

## **Gazetteer ASD Geometry**

As previously reported, the Commissioner continues to carry out a review of the Gazetteer Associated Data (ASD) records for compliance with the SDTF Ver. 4 Specification.

From the latest data extracted on 17 April 2023, 24 of the 42 gazetteers passed validation. The Commissioner was pleased to note improvement across the board. All but one authority showed improvement.

The Commissioner wants to remind the authorities that providing a Street Gazetteer is one of the statutory duties for a road works authority under the NRSWA. Repeated failure to supply compliant data could lead to a Commissioner Penalty. The Commissioner requests that all authorities put in place appropriate resources to ensure a compliant Gazetteer is provided by the May deadline which is now past.

Anyone who wants to check their data should contact the Improvement Service ([gzhelp@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:gzhelp@improvementservice.org.uk)).

## **Inspection Units**

The Commissioner has noted that the data used on the SRWR to estimate Inspection Units has been wrongly including non-excavation works. To avoid this being a problem the Commissioner would like to remind all organisations of the following:

- The number of sample inspections to be undertaken must be set in agreement between R.As and S.U.s.
- While the SRWR can provide an estimate (based on inspection units recorded against works for the previous three years) this figure should be used to inform discussion rather than be treated as the final figure.
- If an undertaker plans to carry out more, or less, works in an R.A. area, they should provide the relevant R.A. with details to help agree an appropriate number of inspections to be carried out.
- Once a figure is agreed, the R.As should work with Symology to ensure the targets used on the SRWR match those agreed with the S.U.s.

The error in the report is being corrected by Symology and is currently planned for release around 1 June 2023.

## **RQP on Notices**

Each notice now has a tick box to indicate an undertaker has an approved RQP in place (or the promoter is an authority and does not need one). This is a requirement of the new legislation. It is pre-ticked to minimise the impact on users creating notices. Please note that notices for S109 works will also have the new tick boxes added shortly, confirming the applicant is aware of the requirement on them to have an approved RQP.

## **New Organisations on SRWR**

Nexfibre Networks Limited (previously Virgin Media Networks Limited, not to be confused with Virgin Media Group), Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Limited, Fibrus Networks Limited and Giggle Fibre Limited have been given access to the SRWR. All are telecoms companies.

Optify Mediaforce Limited (who were previously PCCW) have changed their name to Wifinity Limited and Forbury Assets Limited have changed their name to Optimal Power Networks Limited.

An SRWR Users Webinar is planned for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Information will be advertised on the SRWR. Topics are likely to include Stop / Start recording and changes to the Register.

J.G. commented that she had not received any feedback or reports on poor signing raised by the drive by inspections. To date no notices / reports had been issued as the use of the dashcam was only a trial at present. J.G. queried if this inspection using the dash cam was acceptable as there was no actual site visit / presence. J.G. asked to be contacted about any site which was failing during the trial so that the required remedial action could be taken.

J.G. asked for a short report on this proposal to be submitted to the Inspections Group.

**Action – J.H.**

## **6, Working Group Reports**

National Coring Programme Working Group

S.S. / I.J / L.H. are making the final checks to the lists of sites to ensure a match between Appendices A and B and the records on the Register prior to producing the final report.

J.G. and F.McI. commented that they were aware of minor discrepancies in the SGN / Scottish Water data.

J.F. asked if the Community would be asked to feed in suggestions on the current programme for consideration for any future programme. The Working Group have been recording issues on an action track for future consideration.

RQP Working Group

There were no plans for the Working Group to meet again at present but if there were any problems they would be recalled.

## Coordination Group

The Group has been meeting and have discussed the following: -

- 2 Hour recording of Stop / Starts will be added to the Code.
- A review of the legislation changes provided by K.Q. is under way.
- A review of the list of suggestions produced by J.H. will be commenced.
- Consideration of the system for Road Closures

## Inspections Working Group

J.G. reported that the Group were considering the following: -

- Consideration is being given to a risk based method of specifying defects and dealing with traffic management. David.Shaw from North Ayrshire is providing input to this project.
- Training will be required when the final proposal is approved.

## SROR Review Group

See above in the Commissioners Report for more information.

A review of the Appendix 9 is ongoing. S.W. reported that North Lanarkshire with an Authority in England had been awarded funding to develop a carbon Calculator and data base. This may feed into the Appendix 9 testing innovation.

Training will be needed across the Community on the contents and operation of the new Code.

## 7. Health and Safety

### a. List of Plant Protection Systems

This is a standard Item on the Agendas giving all the opportunity to update their details in order that the schedule is up to date on the Web Site.

The existing version will be reviewed and the new Organisations added.

### b. Emergency Contact Details

This is a standard Item on the Agendas giving all the opportunity to update their details in order that the schedule is up to date on the Web Site.

The Committee noted that there were several Organisations which to date have not submitted any contact information. All should review the schedule and advise the Secretary of their details.

#### **Action – All**

c) SW advised that NLC's maintenance partner (APS) were undertaking trials of Intellicon's site incursion warning system. The system had been adapted to provide an audible warning to operatives if the site boundary is breached. Further information on the trials will be provided in due course.

**8. AOCB**

**a. RAUC(S) / Area RAUC Meeting Dates 2023**

This table was circulated for information.

**b. Local Co-ordination Meetings (Chairs / Meeting Dates)**

This table was circulated for information. All should check that their meeting is not in conflict with another which is likely to have the same S.U. Representatives.

**d. Works On / Over / Adjacent to Structures**

CO'B raised concerns on works being undertaken on and around structures with no comment or request to the Structures Authority as required by Section No. 147 of the Act. Permission is required for the proposed method of work. It was recognised that identifying all such sites, particularly in rural areas, can be difficult.

Notices should flag sections of road affected by a Structure. At present there is no Application Form available in the Register. Some R.As are recording Structure - Bridges / Retaining Walls etc as "Sites of Engineering Difficulty" while others record them as "Other". The Code indicates that they should only be recorded as SED where there is in fact a problem but not as a default.

C.O'B. will raise the subject with Symology at the next SAT to get a clearer picture and to find out if there is a better way of dealing with this matter.

The R.As should review this matter and report to the next meeting. **Action - All R.As**

**9. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting**

S.W. thanked all for their attendance at the meeting.

**Next Meeting: - Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Venue: - MS TEAMS**

**Future Meeting Dates – To be Agreed**

Meeting Closed – 12.45