



SOUTH EAST AREA ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the QUARTERLY MEETING held on 11th AUGUST, 2020

This meeting was convened via MS Teams – 41 joined the meeting remotely:

Fiona McInnes(Chair)	FMcI	Scottish Water
Alan Heatley	AH	Midlothian Council
Brian Wilson	BW	Scottish Borders Council
Carol-Ann Dodd	CAD	Midlothian Council
David Hearty	DHe	MBNL-EE/3
Adrian Henzler	AHe	Openreach
John Henderson	JH	Scottish Borders Council
Hugh Randall	HR	Streetworksolutions/ctil
Craig McQueen	CMcQ	Scottish Water
Ruth Scott	RS	SSE
Katrina Hardy	KH	INEOS
Iain Ross	IR	OSRWC
Kevin Douglas	KD	SGN
Brian Cooper	BC	Secretarial Support
Clare Callaghan	CC	Scottish Water
Jim Forbes	JF	Cityfibre
Chris Murray	CM	Sky
Joao Carmo	JC	SPEN
Owen Harte	OH	Virgin Media
Stephen McGill	SM	Fulcrum
Alison Weir	AW	Lastmile - uk
Jason Halliday	JHa	West Lothian Council
David McInarlin	DMcI	Energetics
Michael Casey	MC	Royal Mail
Jim Igoe	JI	Verion
Julie Greig	JG	SGN
Elaine Stewart	ES	SPEN
David Murdoch	DM	Networkrail
Karyn Davidson	KDa	Vodafone
Carole McDonald	CM	Cityfibre
Kat Quane	KQ	Transport Scotland
Robert Mcfarlane	RMcf	Energy Assets
Angus Carmichael	AC	SRWC
Natasa Gogo	NG	Hyperoptic
Gerry Cullen	GC	Traffic Scotland
Robert Young	RY	Digital Scotland
Eleni Gigourtaki	EG	East Lothian Council
Barry Hall	BH	gtc-uk
David Ross	DR	Amey
John Balmer	JB	Hfcomms
Fiona Parker	FP	

Apologies: Michael Hymer, Tom Flaherty, Stuart Harding, Douglas Haughey, Stephen Fisher, Andrew Matheson, Carol Griffiths, Caroline Auld, Des Creighton

- **Welcome, attendance and apologies**

Chair Fiona McInnes welcomed everyone who had joined the meeting - Attendance and apologies as recorded above. She advised that she would mute everyone's microphone, except the person she had asked to speak. Anyone else who wished to speak should raise their "onscreen hand".

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 19th May, 2020

The draft Minute circulated by the Secretary prior to the meeting was agreed as a true record. Outstanding actions had been discharged as follows:

Item5 – The Secretary had e mailed a reminder to pay the Prescribed Fees on 22/5/20.

Item7 – RAs had confirmed they were arranging Local Coordination meetings remotely.

Item 9 – Jim Forbes confirmed he was satisfied with the outcome of the meeting with the City of Edinburgh Council.

3. RAUCS Meeting on 24th June, 2020 – Update/Matters Arising

FMcI provided background information in relation to the following matters:

- National Coring Report published - South East lowest pass rate in Scotland
- SROH Published but not active until May 2021
- Circulation of Safety Bulletins now a regular feature
- The Transport(Scotland)Act, 2019 Seminar in April had to be cancelled due to the pandemic
- Noted a rise in the number of Organisations showing red on the Dashboard
- Job advert for the SRWC can be found on the Transport Scotland website
- Representative from Symology had given RAUCS a report on the forthcoming roll out of the new version of the SRWR
- Noted most Councils are considering/implementing Spaces for People
- Noted where works ongoing that Covid 19 signage is generally in place

4. National Coring Update

CMcQ thanked Jason Halliday and West Lothian Council as Lead Authority for the efficient and hard work which ensured that the South East area was in the forefront in the latest coring programme reported on and published in July. National figure of 88% - South East result 78% - 100% achieved by Lastmile and Vodafone.

Wash-up meeting to be arranged after the summer. JH thanked CMcQ for his input and the report and thanked everyone for their assistance and cooperation.

5. SRWC Report and Performance

IR referred to the Dashboard Report circulated in advance of the meeting, and pointed out that due to ongoing circumstances some figures may be in doubt, including VAULT information. He emphasised that any red figures should be discussed with the OSRWC. The Commissioner is arranging meetings to discuss Improvement Plans as necessary

All works, including non-essential, can now resume and RAs should be carrying out Inspections.

Should Covid-19 flare up again Transport Scotland and the Commissioner would keep everyone informed.

The cancelled April 2020 TSA Seminar now planned for April 2021.

The Commissioner has issued letters to six organisations following publication of the Coring Report results.

21 responses had been received on the SROR review.

6. Improvement Notices

City of Edinburgh Council had advised this was in abeyance at this time.

AH confirmed that once Virgin Media had completed any snagging in Midlothian he would arrange a meeting with AM.

7. Local RAUCS reports/Programmes of major works/Proposed Changes to Road Designations/Local Coring/Events

Under this Item the Chair asked each of the organisations represented to provide a short update report on their current situation, incorporating the Item headings as above, where applicable:

Transport Scotland:

KQ referred to her discussion paper on Construction Guidance and Shielding circulated prior to the meeting. She warned that local lockdowns can arise anywhere and at short notice.

She advised the Commencement Schedule for the new Transport (Scotland) Act, 2019 is still delayed (April 2021 possible).

She also referred to Nitrile, Vinyl and Nitrile/vinyl hybrid gloves being EN455 and EN1186 certified and acceptable as PPE.

Roads Authorities:

Majority of Local Coordination Meetings had been held remotely – West Lothian arranged for 13th August. “Spaces for People” with more emphasis on road space for cyclists and pedestrians, being implemented.

RAs are carrying out Inspections. No public events taking place except small markets in the Scottish Borders. Works in most areas slowly resuming, but in some cases no major works planned until 2021. No local coring.

BEARScotland takes over the South East Trunk Roads Contract from Amey on 17th August.

RY provided the following update report for the South East of Scotland area for the Minute:

South East Scotland

The DSBB Programme is now complete, with the target of premises connected now exceeded.

The Reaching for 100% (R100) deployment is in three Contracts – North, Central and South. Councils in South East Scotland are within the Central and South Contract Areas.

BT/Openreach have been awarded the Central and South Contracts. Survey work is now under way across these areas for the early phases of the R100 programme. Note that the contract is with BT plc and any associated works are the responsibility of BT and their contractors from planning to delivery.

BT was also named as preferred bidder for the North lot, but a subsequent legal challenge by Gigaclear means that the contract cannot be awarded until the legal process has concluded.

The majority of deployment is likely to be Fibre to the Premise technology, but with some limited Fibre to the Cabinet installs planned for the Central Area contract.

The Scottish Government is looking to share advance information with roads authorities in the near future, and initiate meetings to discuss the deployment of the works. In the meantime, any issues/queries relating specifically to the R100 programme should be sent to r100@gov.scot

Statutory Undertakers:

- SUs works - slowly restarting - some telecom-related works in progress; SW Capital Works Prog has restarted; SPEN has resumed their works - all on the SRWR; Network Rail operating normally; Majority of others no works in progress so in some cases are reviewing their risk assessments and method statements to ensure Covid-19 compliant in preparation of restarting works.
- A number of SUs have issues with TTROs in the City of Edinburgh Council area – JF will request a meeting with SH
- SUs local coring: SGN and SW (unable to access coring site locations from the SRWR?)

8. Management and Operation of the SRWR (including any matters/items of note relating to the Gazetteer, the SAT and the Community Apparatus VAULT) –

IR advised that all the Prescribed Fees had been paid on time. No new organisations joining the Register this quarter. Gazetteer load cycle is quarterly. Business as usual for the SAT since the new upgrade went live on 13th July 2020. Any problems report to the Symology helpdesk asap. The Commissioner is happy with the upgrade improvements in the new system but is anxious to deal with any problems timeously. JG was concerned that she was not informed of any changes made as a result of raising issues. IR happy to receive e mails too, and advised that training by e - learning on new system is on the Register.

9. Any Other Competent Business

- a) FMCI drew attention to the SERAUC chair succession list included in the Agenda, and confirmed she would Chair the November 2020 Meeting, with West Lothian commencing from the February 2021 Meeting.
- b) The Chair thanked Angus Carmichael for his service as Commissioner and wished him well for his forthcoming retirement. Angus responded by saying he had thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone for the past five years – the RAUCS Community had come a long way and helped keep Scotland ahead.

10. Date of next meeting: 10th November, 2020

BC – September, 2020;

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