

## TAYFORTH RAUC MEETING

The minute of the meeting of the TayForth RAUC held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020 on MS TEAMS (11.00 – 12.30)

<b>John O'Neill (Chair)</b>	<b>Dundee City Council</b>	<b>J.O'N.</b>
<b>David Allan</b>	<b>Amey S.E.</b>	<b>D.A.</b>
<b>Clare Callaghan</b>	<b>Scottish Water</b>	<b>C.C.</b>
<b>Angus Carmichael</b>	<b>Scottish Road Works Commissioner</b>	<b>A.C.</b>
<b>Joao Carmo</b>	<b>SPEN</b>	<b>J.C.</b>
<b>David Corsar</b>	<b>Stirling Council</b>	<b>D.C.</b>
<b>Gerry Cullen</b>	<b>Traffic Scotland</b>	<b>G.C.</b>
<b>Karyn Davidson</b>	<b>Vodafone</b>	<b>K.D.</b>
<b>Jim Forbes</b>	<b>CityFibre</b>	<b>J.F.</b>
<b>Daren Grant</b>	<b>SSE</b>	<b>D.G.</b>
<b>Mike Gray</b>	<b>BEAR Scotland</b>	<b>M.G.</b>
<b>Barry Hall</b>	<b>GTC</b>	<b>B.H.</b>
<b>Katrina Hardy</b>	<b>Ineos O &amp; P Pipelines</b>	<b>K.H.</b>
<b>Owen Harte</b>	<b>Virgin Media</b>	<b>O.H.</b>
<b>David Hearty</b>	<b>EE / MBNL / 3</b>	<b>D.Hea.</b>
<b>Colin Heggie</b>	<b>Perth and Kinross Council</b>	<b>C.H.</b>
<b>Douglas Hill</b>	<b>Angus Council</b>	<b>D.H.</b>
<b>Ewan Hogg</b>	<b>Falkirk Council</b>	<b>E.H.</b>
<b>Alan Hutcheson</b>	<b>Tay Road Bridge</b>	<b>A.H.</b>
<b>Ian Jones</b>	<b>Fife Council</b>	<b>I.J.</b>
<b>Stephen Kitt</b>	<b>Amey</b>	<b>S.K.</b>
<b>David McAnally</b>	<b>Energy Assets</b>	<b>D.McA.</b>
<b>Duncan MacLennan</b>	<b>Openreach</b>	<b>D.MacL.</b>
<b>Craig McQueen</b>	<b>Scottish Water</b>	<b>C.McQ.</b>
<b>Craig Mitchell</b>	<b>SGN</b>	<b>C.M.</b>
<b>Hazel Moore</b>	<b>Bear Scotland N.E.</b>	<b>H.M.</b>
<b>David Murdoch</b>	<b>Network Rail</b>	<b>D.M.</b>
<b>Kat Quane</b>	<b>Transport Scotland</b>	<b>K.Q.</b>
<b>Iain Ross</b>	<b>O.S.R.W.C.</b>	<b>I.R.</b>
<b>John Russell</b>	<b>Amey /F.R.B. / Q.C.</b>	<b>J.R.</b>
<b>Ruth Scott</b>	<b>SSE Telecom</b>	<b>R.S.</b>
<b>Scott Walker</b>	<b>Clackmannanshire Council</b>	<b>S.W.</b>
<b>Alison Weir</b>	<b>LastMile</b>	<b>A.W.</b>

### In Attendance

<b>George Borthwick</b>	<b>RAUC(S) Sec.</b>	<b>G.E.B.</b>
<b>Robert Young</b>	<b>S.G. - Digital Scotland</b>	<b>R.Y.</b>

### Apologies (Declined)

<b>Caroline Auld</b>	<b>Network Rail</b>	<b>C.A.</b>
<b>Jane Dunlop</b>	<b>O.S.R.W.C.</b>	<b>J.D.</b>
<b>Graeme Davidson</b>	<b>EE / MBNL / 3</b>	<b>G.D.</b>
<b>Carol Griffiths</b>	<b>LastMile</b>	<b>C.G.</b>
<b>Adrian Henzler</b>	<b>Openreach</b>	<b>A.H.</b>

## Apologies (Declined) Continued

<b>Fiona McInnes</b>	<b>Scottish Water</b>	<b>F.McI.</b>
<b>Andrew Mathieson</b>	<b>Virgin Media</b>	<b>A.M.</b>
<b>Chris Murray</b>	<b>Sky</b>	<b>C.M.</b>
<b>Elaine Stewart</b>	<b>SPEN</b>	<b>E.S</b>
<b>Jim Watson</b>	<b>Perth and Kinross Council</b>	<b>J.W.</b>

### **1. Introduction**

John O'Neill welcomed all to the meeting.

The apologies were recorded as above.

### **2. Approval of Previous Minutes.**

#### a. Accuracy

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 were agreed as read.

#### b. Action Tracking.

See the Action Tracking Summary Report.

### **3. National Coring Programme 2019 / 20**

C.McQ. Reported as follows: -

- In total 1666 were taken and analysed.
- The pass rate achieved for Scotland was 88% which was up 6% on the last programme.
- The highest failure rate was on layer depth.
- The Report was approved and published on the Web Site.
- Thanks to all who were involved in the programme.
- In TayForth 301 cores were taken resulting in a 92% pass rate.
- All except Perth and Kinross achieved 90% or above.
- All Areas except the SE Area achieved 90% or above.
- No disputes were submitted to the Working Group.
- Chasing up results and matching them with the Appendices and the Register took more time than it should have.
- A Working Group meeting will be held in due course to review the programme and consider any future programme.

J.F. thanked all involved in the programme including the Working Group, Lead Authorities, R.A.'s and Utilities Representatives.

I.J. indicated that this was the first year that all cores and results had been matched across the appendices and the Register. Results / Notices must be recorded correctly on the Register.

D.C. thanked the other R.As in the area for their input including assisting with the correlation of the results at the end of the programme. The invoices are being issued to the R.As.

#### 4. Matters (Arising from RAUC(S) Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020

##### **E.H. commented on issues discussed as follows: -**

- The National Coring Programme Report was completed and would be issued.
- The S.U.s had been drafting a Quality Plan and the R.As should now be getting involved in the process. With the delay in the Transport (Scotland) Act there was no legislation on which to base the plans.
- Comment was made on the arrangements to deal with the Covid 19 requirements on roadworks sites. These have been updated since then and details are available on the Web Site.
- The Commissioner was monitoring the level of works (Notices through the Register) since the lock down was introduced. The level of works was very low initially but were now creeping back up with CityFibre, Virgin Media, Openreach, SPEN and SSEN now almost back to normal level.
- Spaces for People would be recorded on the Register as non-works disruptions. S.U.s should note these locations as they would have a bearing on whether or not they could have access for works. **Action – R.As / S.U.s**
- The return to normal levels of work in the R.A. sector was slower.
- The performance over the first quarter had been monitored and there will be comments made at the September RAUC(S) Meeting. These are challenging times and all must ensure that they work together to complete programmes of work while maintaining the required levels of coordination without conflicts.

#### 5. O.S.R.W.C. Performance Report and Bulletin

##### **Dashboard: -**

The previously circulated Performance Dashboard for the first quarter of 2020 / 2021 was taken as read with the following comments: -

- Organisations should send comments on red performance to the Enquiries email address.
- Errors in Report No. 16 had been noted and it would be rerun.
- The VAULT Report had not recorded uploads in June.

##### **O.S.R.W.C. Bulletin: -**

- The annual Performance Reviews were being drafted and would be issued in due course.
- The responses for Improvement Plans had been received from the relevant Organisations for Quarter 1. Meetings with the Commissioner's Office would be held as necessary. The Quarter 2 response is due to be received by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.
- Further Covid 19 guidance may be required following the Aberdeen spike. The information if required will be sent out from the O.S.R.W.C. in line with previous circulations. If you are not receiving the guidance please contact enquiries email address for the attention of J.D.
- Works should be subject to a risk analysis and should be in line with Covid 19 advice.
- Letters have been sent to 6 S.U.s from the Commissioner as stage 1 of the Penalties process. This is in relation to poor performance in the recent Coring Programme. The replies with comments on mitigation are awaited.

- The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 / SRWR Seminar which was planned for April this year may be arranged for April 2021.
- 21 responses were received in reply to the Commissioners request for input to the SROR review. The Scottish Government has appointed the Commissioner to carry out the review and the responses will feed into the review.
- The number of early starts is likely to increase at this time to accommodate the catch up on works programmes.

**SRWR Bulletin: -**

I.R. commented on the previously circulated Bulletin as follows: -

- Fees and Amounts – all payments have been received although some Organisations were late. These are Statutory payments which must be made and should be received within the 60 day period which is allowed.
- The roll out of the new version of the SRWR took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> July. Generally, there has been no major problems but there is a problem extracting data for some reports.

If there are problems, they should be reported to the Support Desk. If the response is not thought to be satisfactory details of the matter should be passed to I.R.

- The Transition Training Modules will close in mid-September.
- The standard Training Modules will then be available ongoing, and these are free to use as a help facility. Advice on the training for new Operators will be given in due course.
- A Users Forum may be arranged in due course.
- There have been no new S.U.s joining the Register in the last Quarter.
- The SDTF Ver 4 will not now be introduced until 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021. **Action – R.As**
- SRWC will be monitoring performance on the Gazetteer maintenance.
- SAT have been involved in the development / roll out of the new version of the Register but as that is now completed the Team will get back to reviewing Change Requests and their other standard agenda items.

**6. Improvement Plans**

No Improvement Plan requests have been issued by R.A.s to S.U.s in the last quarter in the TayForth Area.

**7. Reports from the Community**

Transport Scotland – K.Q.

Kat referred to the previously circulated paper as follows: -

- Covid guidance was circulated to NoSRAUC last week for operating in the Aberdeen area.

Reviews are continuing in the Scottish Government and where considered necessary further guidance will be issued. Any updates will be issued via the Commissioner's Office.

Scottish Government provides data about the Covid 19 statistics on their web site.

Shielding – return to work should be assessed via a risk analysis. There is guidance available with a method for carrying out the assessment.

- There are plenty protective gloves in the market either vinyl, nitril or other versions.
- Sites should be set up to accommodate safety for pedestrians queuing e.g. allowing social distancing.
- The Transport (Scotland) Act commencement is being delayed by the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic and may also be further affected by the dissolution of Parliament next year. The result will be that the commencement may further delayed.
- Drafting of Quality Plans should go ahead even though they are currently not required by legislation.

#### Angus Council – D.H.

- The works programme which is being undertaken (including major schemes) is recorded on the Register.
- The budgets therefore the programmes are restricted.
- Three schemes were reported as follows: -
  - Lochlands St, Arbroath, carriageway resurfacing.
  - Montrose Street, Brechin footway resurfacing.
  - Hill Street, Arbroath carriageway resurfacing.

#### Clackmannanshire Council – S.W.

- There have been some problems with the payment for Sample Inspections. This will be raised directly with the relevant S.U.s. J.F. commented that the sample inspections are all paid for no matter whether they pass or fail.
- The work on the Clackmannan Bypass has been completed for the present but there will be further works during the school holidays.
- Spaces for People – If any locations are causing problems for an S.U. they should be raised directly with the R.A.
- The work on Alva town centre has been completed.

#### Dundee City Council – J.O’N.

- Spaces for People Schemes are part of the Scottish Government approved programme to put in place temporary active travel infrastructure in response to the increasing numbers of public choosing to walk wheel and cycle during the public health emergency. Schemes are on site and others are at design stage are currently temporary with the option to become longer term. Statutory Undertakers will require to take these schemes into account for Programming of Works across local authorities.
- The major outdoor events which were planned for Dundee have all been cancelled for this year.
- CityFibre will soon be commencing a programme of works in Dundee.
- There are no changes to road designations planned at present.
- Due to the restrictions in place for the first months of the 2020/21 Financial Year there will be challenges with works programmes to be completed within the compressed operational year by all Organisations especially towards February and March when effects of weather may also have an impact of works programmes. The Commissioner asked all to work together and avoid conflicts where possible. A pragmatic view will be taken in the monitor for this year. **Action - All**

Falkirk Council – E.H.

- The resurfacing schemes are recorded on the Register. The S.U.s should check the locations and advise the R.A. of any works they may want to carry out on these sites.
- There are no Spaces for People planned in Falkirk Town Centre.
- There are no changes to road designations planned at present.

Fife Council – I.J.

- The LRAUC Meeting was held on MS TEAMS. It was reasonably well attended.
- Not many issues with programmes were raised.
- There has been an increase in conflicts. These are being accommodated wherever possible.
- Discussions have been taking place with Virgin Media about performance problems.
- SPEN was thanked for accommodating works in Leven.

Perth and Kinross Council – C.H.

- Programmed works are recorded on the Register.
- Distancing being accommodated on sites.
- S.U.s are asked to keep P&K informed of works which they intend to carry out.
- There has been a problem with Virgin Media about paying for Sample Inspection Fees. This will be explained to their Administration. O.H. indicated that this should be in hand.
- All should note the speed limits on roads where they intend to work and design the Traffic management accordingly.
- The S.U. Representatives who receive the invitation to the LRAUC Meeting should ensure the relevant person who attends.
- C.H. thanked the Commissioner for his input over the last 5 years and wished him well in his retirement.

C.H. left the meeting at this stage to deal with flooding emergencies which had occurred due to the severe overnight weather.

Stirling Council – D.C.

- The LRAUC Meeting was held and several issues were discussed including programmes and working within the restrictions caused by Covid 19.
- Two items of Ironwork were needing attention by Scottish Water and SPEN.
- The programmed works are recorded on the Register including the major footway works commented on at a previous meeting.
- The assistance of the S.U.s to complete schemes was requested.
- Spaces for People was being provided in Stirling Town Centre. Any S.U. with access problems should contact the Office.
- There are no changes to road designations planned at present.

Amey – J.R. / D.A.

J.R. indicated: -

- The Bridges contract transfers to BEAR Scotland on Saturday night.
- The FRB will be closed on Friday night to allow works equipment to be removed.

- A loading check will be carried out overnight Saturday / Sunday with the traffic using the FRB. (22.00 to 02.30 with N-Bound carriageway closed then the work will transfer to the S-Bound Carriageway.
- J.R. thanked all for their assistance over the period with Amey and looked forward to renewing the relationship with Bear Scotland.

D.A. indicated: -

- The new email addresses will be issued at an early date. But to start with the address will be: -  
senetworkaccess@bearsotland.co.uk
- The SE network and the bridges will be all in the one contract which is for 8years with an option for an extra 2 years.
- The maintenance responsibility in the Gazetteer will be transferred.
- The programmes will be issued following discussion with BEAR Scotland.

BEAR Scotland N.E. – H.M.

- The works on the A92 at Dunnikeir, Kirkcaldy is ongoing. Problems had been experienced today due to plant breakdown.
- The N.E. programme of works is recorded on the Register.
- The work on the Glencarse overbridge is due to commence later in August and will last for 7 weeks.

BEAR Scotland NW – M.G.

- All A9 Dualling is due to recommence on 13<sup>th</sup> August.
- The works programme will be issued via the Secretary.
- Transport Scotland want the Traffic Sensitivity to be observed so S.U.s should take this into account when programming works.
- On some of the rural roads, the traffic volumes are higher than normal but, every effort will be made to accommodate works.

Digital Scotland – R.Y.

The DSBP 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 the Tayforth area are within the North and Central 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

There has been disquiet expressed from Perth and Kinross Council about the number of FTTC survey locations sent to the Roads Authority for comment - Openreach have been made aware of the issue.

CityFibre – J.F.

- Snagging of the works in Stirling has to be completed. J.F. thanked the Stirling team for their input during the programme.
- A programme of works will commence in Dundee in November once the contract has been signed. A premeeting will be held in Dundee next week. Problems which crop up should be dealt with as the programme progresses.

EE / MBNL / 3 – D.Hearty

- All works are on the Register.
- Covid 19 Guidance is being observed.

Inoes O&P Pipelines - K.H.

- Works and programmes progressing as required.

Lastmile – D.McA.

- Back to normal works

Openreach – D.MacL.

- Back to normal operations.
- Dealing with reinstatements to bring them up to date.

Network rail – D.M.

- Work as normal.

Scottish Water – C.C.

- Works programme is returning to a normal level.
- Bursts are receiving priority.
- All works are being recorded on the Register.
- New frames and covers can be provided for resurfacing sites.

Scottish Water – C.McQ.

- Programme of works is restarting with coordination via the Register.
- The coring programme is due to restart.

SGN – C.M.

- Back to normal programming of works.
- Covid 19 guidance being observed.

SPEN – J.C.

- Back on the programme with sites registered on the Register.

SSET – R.S.

- Working back on track with sites recorded on the Register.
- Thanks were recorded to the P&K staff for their recent assistance.

Tay Road Bridge – A.H.

- No planned works.



Traffic Scotland – G.C.

- Returned to normal programme of works.

Virgin Media – A,M,

- Works will commence in Cowdenbeath in October 2020.
- Works in Kelty are programmed to commence in Quarter 4.
- A meeting was held with I.J. to discuss performance and efforts are being made to provide the required service.
- A meeting will be held with Angus Council to discuss works in Arbroath.

## **7. Safety**

PPE equipment needs to be provided in accordance with Covid 19 guidance.

## **8. AOCB**

### **a. List of Plant Protection Systems**

This Item will remain on the Agenda and the Version of the Schedule current at the time will be circulated. All should check their record and inform the Secretary of any changes. The Schedule will be posted on the Web Site under Community Contacts.

### **b. Emergency Contact Schedule**

This Item will remain on the Agenda and the Version of the Schedule current at the time will be circulated. All should check their record and inform the Secretary of any changes. The Schedule will be posted on the Web Site under Community Contacts.

The revised Schedule has been posted on the RAUC(S) web site

### **c. SRWC Retiral**

J.O’N. indicated that the Commissioner was due to retire in September ending his 5 year contract. He would be a loss to the Community, and all wished him a long and happy retirement. He had taken a pragmatic approach in the post being firm but fair.

The Commissioner thanked J.O’N for his good wishes. He was pleased to report that over the period the performance had improved, and he hoped that the upward trend would continue.

The information on the appointment of the new Commissioner would be issued in due course. The handover had still to be agreed but J.D. and the rest of the staff would be there to continue the work of the Office.

J.F. echoed the comments made by J.O’N.

### **d. Post Covid Inspection Survey**

J.F. thanked all who had responded to the survey and indicated that the information which had been received would be collated then circulated via the Secretary.

**10. Date of Next Meeting: - 11.00 am Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Venue: – MS TEAMS**

**Future Meetings Dates: -**

To be agreed.

The Meeting finished at 12.35

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