

Tactran FQP Steering Group

Notes of Meeting held at Montrose Port Office on Wednesday 14 September 2011

Present:	Michael Cairns (MC)	Tactran (Chair)
	Peter Noad (PN)	Scottish Enterprise
	David Eaglesham (DE)	Road Haulage Association
	John Paterson (JP)	Montrose Port Authority
	Tony Maric (TM)	Perth & Kinross Council
	Gavin Roser (GR)	Tactran Board Member
Apologies:	Phil Flanders	Road Haulage Association
	Claire Glaister	Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group
	Neil Prentice	Angus Council
	Daniel Muir	Highland Spring
	Roland Stiven	CONFOR
	Ewan Gourlay	Dundee City Council
	Jonathan Padmore	Stirling Council
	Eric Guthrie	Tactran

1. Tour of Port of Montrose

JP and Harbour Master, Captain Brian Forrest, gave the Steering Group a tour of the Port and informed them of current usage and future developments.

2. Notes of previous meeting – 14 September 2010

Notes were agreed. No Matters Arising

3. Initiatives Update

(i) Freight Consolidation Centre

MC gave an update on the Perth Freight Consolidation Centre Trial and the bid being made for EU INTERREG funding. He commented that “observers” were needed for the EU bid. DE and PN indicated that their organisations would be prepared to be identified as “observers”.

(ii) Dundee Port Railhead

MC commented that there was no further progress to report but that potential funding opportunities would continue to be explored. PN considered that a joint venture project, e.g. with the Port of Dundee, could be a possibility.

(iii) South Montrose Development Masterplan

JP gave an update on the Study. Major features are allowing for expansion for Glaxo SmithKline and improved road access to GSK and the port. PN considered that the land and building owners would be critical to implementation, as CPOs would delay delivery, also addressing the B listing of the Custom House would be needed. GSK’s announcement of investment at the plant had been well received.

(iv) Crianlarich Timber Railhead

MC indicated that following a change of consultants work had restarted to identify potential users of a timber terminal. In general terms the prospects for the railhead did not appear promising.

(v) Highland Spring rail connection

MC commented that Highland Spring was still interested in the scheme but it was not currently being progressed.

4. Freight Action Plan 2011/12

MC indicated that the Action Plan had been approved by the Tactran Board on 21 June. Comments on the actions were.

- consideration of overnight lorry parking was being included in all of Tactran's Park & Ride proposals
- Perth Freight Consolidation Centre – see above
- it was intended to complete the study of the Crianlarich Lower rail terminal
- support of port development and rail connections would continue
- the development of a regional freight map was in progress for completion by the end of the financial year.

5. Perth South road/rail freight facility

MC indicated that the allocation of land for a road/rail freight facility at Perth South was being reviewed as part of the Perth & Kinross Council LDP and asked for views on this. PN commented that there was a good economic development argument for retention of the allocation of the site for possible road/rail freight use.

6. Rosyth – Zeebrugge ferry B2B event

MC informed the Group of a B2B event being held in Brussels on November 8 by SEStran to encourage greater use of the ferry service

7. Winter resilience

MC indicated that replies to the Group's letter to Road Authorities regarding winter resilience had been received from Angus, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Councils. The replies were given to DE for further consideration by RHA.

8. Freight Facilities Grant – RTP Review

MC had previously circulated the Joint RTP Chairs submission and response for Transport Scotland on the operation of FFG. GR contested the TS response and considered that FFG should be eligible for short term projects of 3 – 6 months that test the market.

9. Additional membership – Rail Freight Group

MC commented that Jonathan Padmore had suggested extending an invitation to David Spaven as Scottish Representative of the Rail Freight Group. This was agreed, also that Transport Scotland's Rail Policy manager, John Maxwell be invited.

ACTION Tactran to invite Rail Freight Group and Transport Scotland Rail Policy to join the Group and attend the next meeting.

10. AOB

GR commented how successful the visit to Montrose Port had been and that a future visit to NHS Scotland's logistics operation in Larkhall should be considered. He also suggested that an update on EU funding be part of the next meeting's agenda.

11. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that a meeting should be held in April 2012.

ACTION Tactran to circulate with possible dates for the next meeting.