

**Mobility & Access Committee Scotland (MACS)  
Main Committee meeting**

**Minutes of meeting held on 24 January 2012  
Conference Rooms 2, Victoria Quay**

**Present:**

Anne MacLean, Convener

**Members:**

John Ballantine (JB)  
Bob Benson (BB)  
Clare Byrne (CB)  
Heather Fiskien (HF)  
James Glover (JG)  
Andrew Holmes (AH)  
Jane Horsburgh (JH)  
Grahame Lawson (GL)  
Muriel Masson (MM)  
Annette Monaghan (AM)

**Secretariat:**

Linda Craik (LC), Secretary  
Jean Goldie, Assistant Secretary

**In attendance:**

Fiona Locke, Head of Sponsor Team (FL)  
Laura Harrison, Palantypist  
Alan Clark, Transport Scotland (Observer)

**Item 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

1. The Convener welcomed the members, and Laura Harrison the Palantypist, to the meeting. Alan Clark, Transport Scotland, who was attending as an observer, was introduced to the Committee. There were no apologies to note.

**Item 2. Minutes of the previous meeting/matters arising**

2. Members requested that some minor amendments be made to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Paragraph 11 – amend the penultimate sentence to read “Although transport was not one of the topics under consideration, the Convener felt that Visit Scotland had missed an opportunity on this.” Delete the last sentence of paragraph 11 and the related action point.

**Action point 1:      Secretariat to amend minutes of previous meeting.**

**Points of Action from meeting held on 25 October 2011**

3.      The Convener informed members that a response to the MACS letter had now been received from the Chief Executive of Transport Scotland in relation to the National Transport Strategy (NTS) and asked that the Secretariat copy this to the Committee members.

**Action point 2:      Secretariat to copy David Middleton's letter on the NTS to the MACS members for information.**

4.      It was noted that suggested dates for a site visit to Edinburgh Airport to view and discuss the available disabled parking arrangements had been circulated to members and it was hoped that this visit would take place in early February. Members agreed that the meeting should be attended by the Convener, MM, CB, JB and BB, with the Secretariat in attendance to provide any required support.

5.      BB suggested that a meeting between Visit Scotland and representatives of MACS might be beneficial to both parties and it was agreed that this would be kept under consideration and discussed at a future meeting.

6.      A short discussion was had on the draft "Good Practice Guide for Bus Operators" which had been produced by Bus Passengers' Platform (BPP). Members were asked to pass any comments they had on this document to the lead members of the MACS Bus Workstream to allow these to be co-ordinated and fed back to BPP.

**Action point 3:      (i)      Secretariat to circulate the proposed dates of the visit to Edinburgh Airport and the original MACS correspondence to, and response from, the Airport.**

**(ii)      Members to pass any comments on the BPP Good Practice Guide to the MACS bus workstream member(s).**

7.      LC informed the Committee that she was following up the action points in relation to meetings with planning officials and would report back to members as soon as these had been completed.

**Action point 4:      Secretariat to complete action points from previous MACS meeting.**

**Item 3.      Convener Update**

8.      The Convener gave a brief summary of the evidence session that MACS had attended with the Scottish Parliament's Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC) on 13 December 2011. It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate the transcript of this meeting when it became available.

**Action point 5:      Secretariat to circulate the transcript of the MACS/EOC session to members.**

9. Members noted that the Convener would be meeting with the Minister for Housing and Transport, to discuss the MACS Annual Report 2010-2011, on 8 March 2012. It was agreed that at that meeting, the Convener would raise the issue of the lack of reference to the needs of disabled passengers in the Rail 2014 consultation document and that she would also prepare a letter to the Chief Executive of Transport Scotland on this issue.

***Action point 6: Convener to prepare a draft letter to David Middleton, Chief Executive of Transport Scotland, about the lack of reference to the needs of disabled passengers in the Rail 2014 consultation document.***

#### **Item 4. Secretariat Update**

10. FL spoke to the Secretariat Update paper which had been provided to members. There were no issues arising from this.

#### **Item 5. Member's Reports on Events attended**

11. Written reports on meetings and events which had been attended by members of the Committee were noted. There were no issues arising from these.

12. Following a discussion on the current Committee workstreams, it was agreed that the *Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change workstream* should be replaced by a *Planning and Infrastructure workstream*. It was felt that this better reflected the nature of the issues which this particular group would concentrate on. Secretariat agreed to give some thought to appropriate contacts and areas of interest that would be appropriate to this workstream and to contact the relevant members to discuss this.

***Action point 7: Secretariat to contact HF and AM to discuss the new Committee workstream.***

#### **Item 6. Guest speakers – Adrienne Nardi and Susie Palmer, Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games Team**

13. The Convener welcomed Adrienne Nardi (AN), General Manager for Transport and Susie Palmer (SP), Accessibility Manager from the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games Team. She also introduced Scott McEwan, Policy Manager from the Scottish Government Commonwealth Games Deliver Team who was attending as an observer for this agenda item.

14. To set the scene for the reasoning behind the invitation to address the Committee meeting, the Convener gave some background as to the role and remit of MACS. She indicated that the Committee were very concerned at the lack of engagement that the Commonwealth Games Team appeared to be having with organisations who represented disabled travellers and that she had raised this when MACS were meeting with both the Transport and the Equal Opportunities Committees of the Scottish Parliament.

15. AN thanked the Committee for the opportunity to attend the meeting and indicated that she and SP would be driving forward the accessibility aspects of the forthcoming Games and hoped to have a much closer working relationship with MACS and other relevant organisations in the future.

16. AN and SP gave an overview of each of the venues which would be used for events during the Commonwealth Games and the actions which had been taken so far with regards to adjustments, signage etc. She also indicated that it was hoped that a “training manager” would be appointed in March/April 2012 and that they would be responsible for ensuring that all staff and volunteers involved with the Games would be suitably trained to assist spectators, regardless of their disabilities.

17. Members noted the intention of the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee to set up an Access Reference Group and welcomed the opportunity to offer suggestions on which Disability Groups/Organisations should be invited to take part in this. It was agreed that this Access Group should be set up as soon as possible.

18. MACS members raised a number of issues in relation to the transportation and infrastructure plans for the Games and associated venues and were informed that, in the forthcoming months, there would be a Transport and Environmental Steering Group set up to look in detail at the various issues and obstacles which might arise for disabled travellers.

19. Following a discussion on the potential lasting legacy that the Glasgow 2014 Games would bring to Scotland, it was agreed that any further questions or issues that the members might wish to raise in connection with the transport and infrastructure aspects of the Games could be fed through the members of the MACS Commonwealth Games workstream.

20. The Convener thanked AN and SP for their most informative presentation and stated that the MACS members looked forward to a far closer and more fruitful working relationship with the Organising Committee in the lead up to the Games.

**Action point 8:** (i) ***MACS members to offer suggestions for Groups/organisations which might be invited to be part of The Glasgow 2014 Access Reference Group.***

(ii) ***MACS members to feed any additional questions for the Glasgow 2014 Team via the Commonwealth Games Workstream Members.***

## **Item 7. Oral Update from Workstreams**

21. JH stated that the next *Roads for All* meeting was due to take place on 30 January 2012 and that the new Chair of this group would be in attendance at this meeting. She also gave a brief overview of the work that was ongoing in connection with the *Forth Replacement Crossing* and *Shared Surfaces*.

22. With regards to the Draft Ferries Plan consultation document, AM requested that members pass their comments to her as soon as possible to allow co-ordination of these and for the final draft to be considered by the Convener before the 30 March deadline for responses.

**Action point 9:** ***Members to feed comments on the Ferries Plan to AM as soon as possible.***

23. GL informed members that, as of 1 January 2012, the new design Blue Badges were being issued by Local Authorities and that it was now possible to apply for badges on line.

24. JS indicated that the short term working group on Demand Responsive Transport and Community Transport (DRT/CT) was still to arrange its next meeting and that she was following this up with the organiser, Dave Duthie.

25. MM gave members an update on the issues which she was taking forward in relation to rail matters. Members were asked to pass any comments they had on these issues and the Rail 2014 consultation to MM as soon as possible. Following discussion, it was agreed by the members that it would be useful to invite Chris Clark (Rail Accessibility Manager, Transport Scotland), Patrick Nyamurundira (Access and Inclusion Manager, ScotRail) and John Wilson (Communications Manager, Network Rail) to attend the next Committee meeting on 17 April to discuss the various concerns which MACS had in relation to some rail matters.

26. BB spoke to the Framework for Equality discussion paper that his workstream had compiled and explained the purpose of the document. Following discussion on this, it was agreed that the best way to identify any potential gaps in the paper would be to try it out at the forthcoming meeting between MACS and officials at Edinburgh Airport. BB agreed to trial this at the Airport meeting and report back on the outcome at the next MACS Committee meeting.

**Action point 10: (i) Members to pass any comments on the Rail 2014 consultation to MM as soon as possible.**

**(ii) Secretariat to invite rail representatives to attend the next MACS meeting on 17 April 2012.**

**(iii) BB to complete the Framework for Equality Document after the meeting with Edinburgh Airport and report back on the outcome at the next MACS Committee meeting.**

## **Item 8. Agenda Items for future meetings**

27. The Convener indicated that, at her forthcoming meeting with the Minister for Housing and Transport, she wanted to inform him of the main issues which would make up the future work programme for the Committee in the coming year. Members discussed this matter and agreed that the main areas of input/interest for MACS would include: Glasgow Commonwealth Games, Rail 2014 consultation, draft Ferries Plan consultation and possible engagement with Passenger's View Scotland on items of mutual interest. The Convener suggested that it might be useful to invite a member of the Transport Scotland Analytical Services Team to attend a future MACS meeting to speak about the level of information which was collected/available in relation to disabled travellers.

**Action point 11: Secretariat to invite a representative from the Transport Scotland Analytical Services Team to attend a future MACS meeting.**

**Item 9. Any Other Business**

28. There were no further items to be discussed under this heading. Alan Clark (Transport Scotland) thanked the Convener and Members for allowing him the opportunity to act as an observer at the MACS meeting and added that he had been very impressed by the input from all of the members and the range of issues which the Committee was covering.

**Item 10. Date of next meeting and future meetings**

29. Members noted that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 17 April 2012 at 11:00 am in Conference Room 2, Victoria Quay.

30. The dates for the remaining meetings for 2012 were agreed as follows:

Tuesday 24 July 2012

Tuesday 23 October 2012

The Convener closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and for their ongoing hard work and commitment to the work of the Committee.

**MACS Secretariat  
February 2012**