



## Meeting Notes

### Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 34



07 June 2016, 10:00 to 11:00

### Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth

#### Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) – Chair
Maggie Paterson	EDT
Steven Westwater	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Michael Richardson	FCBC
Colin Goodsir	FCBC
Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Andrew McBride	SNH
Jim Robb	Fife Council (FC)

#### Apologies for Absence:

Kenny Bisset	FC
Shauna Clarke	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)
Gavin Johnson	SNH

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	<b>Introductions and apologies</b>	EDT provided a welcome, introductions and apologies. SNH introduced two school work experience students (Alistair and Andrew) who were observing the meeting.	
2	<b>Actions from previous meeting (ELG 33)</b>	<p>EDT advised that the minutes from ELG meeting 33 have been uploaded to the website.</p> <p>EDT confirmed progress regarding actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EDT to source and provide plans of the completed B981 to SNH to progress de-notification of the small areas currently designated as St. Margaret's Marsh SSSI. This action to be undertaken when the fence alignment, which will define the edge of the SSSI, including the otter fence at the foot of the B981 embankment, is finalised. SNH advised that the SUDS detention basin should be outwith the SSSI area.</li> <li>Following meeting 26/11/15 with Scottish Badgers to discuss FCBC's proposed badger fencing, FCBC has confirmed the height of stone walls at Queensferry gyratory to be at least 1500mm high and submitted an Appendix R report to cover the omission of the badger-proof overhang, which has been approved by EDT.</li> <li>Consideration of badger fencing requirements at B800 area remains in progress.</li> <li>Update to Marine Incident Response plan has been issued to Marine Scotland and SNH, and placed on the project website.</li> </ul>	<p>Note</p> <p>ongoing EDT</p> <p>FCBC</p>
3	<b>General</b>		
3a	<b>Project update</b>	<p>EDT provided an update as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape planting at all available areas was completed early May 2016. This brings the total number of trees planted for the FRC Principal Contract to 170,000. Seeding works will be undertaken during summer 2016 and the remaining 80,000 trees will be planted from November</li> </ul>	

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		<p>2016, during planting season 2016/2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A night vision camera has been installed to monitor activity at [redacted – confidential protected species information].</li> <li>• Two Eider ducks were nesting at the Marine Yard and an exclusion zone was installed. The ducklings have now hatched and fledged.</li> <li>• Oystercatchers were nesting in the central reservation of the south mainline, opposite Dundas Home Farm. Consultation with SNH was undertaken and exclusion zone installed. The chicks have now hatched and the nest vacated.</li> <li>• (Further to the above items, FCBC issued an Environmental Alert regarding nesting birds to all site personnel.)</li> <li>• Direct Ecology checked tree beside the south abutment for bat roosts prior to felling works to enable construction of a retaining wall. No roosts or potential roosts were identified and supervised felling was confirmed as not being required.</li> </ul>	FCBC
3b	<b>Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website</b>	<p>Air Quality Monitoring Reports from January to April 2016 inclusive have been uploaded to the project website. Review of the May 2016 report by EDT will be commenced shortly.</p> <p>Updates to a number of the EMP subsidiary plans have been completed, to address changes to personnel and reflect current status of construction and environmental works. The following updated EMPs were uploaded to the project website in May 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation and Operation</li> <li>• Area Management</li> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Waste</li> <li>• Dust and Air Quality</li> <li>• Land-based Incident Response</li> <li>• Marine Incident Response</li> </ul>	EDT
3c	<b>Complaints/issues arising</b>	<p>Since the last ELG, in early March 2016, complaints regarding litter in trees, dust from construction activities and a query regarding the type of weedkiller being used in the Dundas area have been raised and addressed.</p>	
4	<b>Principal Contract (FCBC)</b>		
4a	<b>Programme March 2016 – May 2016</b>		
	i) Land (north):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redundant overbridges at Ferrytoll gyratory demolished and concrete crushed and stockpiled for use as fill in mainline construction.</li> <li>• Road and footpath formation works for King Malcolm Drive and Castlandhill Road realignments ongoing.</li> <li>• Surfacing works on mainline from Ferrytoll to north tie-in ongoing.</li> <li>• Installation of otter-proof fence at foot of embankment between B981 and St. Margaret's Marsh progressed.</li> <li>• Installation of liner at North SUDs basin commenced.</li> </ul>	
	ii) Land (south)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surfacing works on mainline from south tie-in to South Abutment ongoing.</li> <li>• Tidying and soiling works adjacent to mainline ongoing, in preparation for seeding works.</li> <li>• Installation of noise barrier at Dundas ongoing.</li> <li>• Fabrication, delivery and installation works for gantries ongoing.</li> </ul>	
	iii) Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pier S1 completed and caisson flooded.</li> <li>• Pier S2 almost completed.</li> </ul>	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of jumpform platforms at North and South Towers completed.</li> <li>• Installation of stay cables and erection of deck sections ongoing at all towers, with installation of the final deck section between the north viaduct and North Tower commenced.</li> </ul>	
	iv) Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site-wide environmental monitoring ongoing for noise and vibration, air quality and groundwater. The programme of monitoring for groundwater may be revised subject to outcome of initial inundations at St. Margaret's Marsh.</li> <li>• Monitoring of silt mitigation measures for site runoff ongoing.</li> <li>• Estuarine bird surveys ongoing by EDT.</li> <li>• Treatment of Japanese knotweed and Giant Hogweed was resumed Spring 2016. The second treatment of invasive species has been undertaken.</li> </ul>	
<b>4b</b>	<b>Outline proposals June – Aug 2016</b>	All items detailed in 4a to be progressed.	
<b>4c</b>	<b>Consultation requirements</b>	FCBC confirmed that a licence had been obtained from SEPA (and following consultation with Marine Scotland and SNH) to discharge water to Firth of Forth from hydro-demolition works at pier S3. A silt buster is being utilised. SEPA to visit site to observe.	FCBC / SEPA
<b>5</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	<p>Following closure of the Forth Road Bridge, FC confirmed that results from the additional monitors, installed on a temporary basis, indicated that air quality was not significantly affected in areas of Fife affected by traffic diversions.</p> <p>A site visit was undertaken by EDT and SNH to St. Margaret's Marsh following today's ELG meeting to update SNH regarding the following recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• clearance of tracks between sea wall sluices and internal sluices undertaken by excavator on 04 April 2016; and</li> <li>• topographic survey undertaken 19 April 2016 and a plan of the levels produced to inform future excavation works.</li> </ul> <p>Consideration of the best approach regarding excavation of channels within the tracks and monitoring future inundations was discussed. EDT to progress.</p> <p>SNH advised that they will report the sunken raft at Port Edgar, where terns used to nest, to Edinburgh Biodiversity Group.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>Note</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Next meeting and venue</b>	The next meeting is scheduled for 06/09/2016 at 10.00hrs.	All