

Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 4



04 October 2011, 10:00 to 12:00

Arrol House, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Chair

Maggie Paterson FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Rebecca Spalton FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Rebecca McClenaghan FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)

Chris Gall Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) – by phone

Niall Corbet Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

Colin Megginson Marine Scotland (MS)

Douglas Mayne Fife Council

Paul Hillman
Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Zoe Miller
Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Paul Manamike
Rob McIntosh
Ruben Casanova
Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)

Cormac Booth
Richard Docherty
Kirsty Strannigan
Paraic McCarthey
Micheal O'Connell

SMRU Ltd (for FCBC)
John Graham (JG)
Sisk Roadbridge (SRB)
Sisk Roadbridge (SRB)

Apologies for Absence:

Steven Brown FRC Employer's Delivery Team

Adele Shaw Historic Scotland

Darren Hemsley Scottish Natural Heritage

Mike Bland Marine Scotland Stephanie Little Fife Council (FC)

Wendy McCorriston West Lothian Council (WLC)
Gavin Martin City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	All parties introduced themselves.	
2	Minutes from previous meeting	EDT confirmed that refinements to the minutes from the Environmental Liaison Group (ELG) meeting number 2 have been made and the final minutes uploaded to the website. No comments were received on draft minutes of ELG meeting number 3.	
3	Actions from previous meeting	 EDT confirmed actions from the last ELG meeting, 30/08/11. The following actions are ongoing: Appendix R will continue to refer to the Stage 3 design and not the Conceptual Design, as requested by FCBC. EDT will provide further summary of guidance for the Appendix R process. EDT requested that all Contractors provide list of key activities for the month ahead at each ELG. EDT meetings with contractors to discuss approach to Sustainability and CEEQUAL are ongoing. FCBC is finalising designs for SUDS layout at St Margaret's Marsh and B981 realignment for submission to 	EDT FCBC/JG/SRB EDT FCBC

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		 SEPA/SNH/EDT SNH visit to setting out for realigned B981 is pending. Estuarine bird surveys are on-going. SRB are currently undertaking consultation with SEPA regarding the compensatory storage at Niddry and Swine Burns. SNH require site visit to M9J1a once site boundary fencing has been erected. 	FCBC/SNH EDT SRB
4	General: Project Update	EDT presented the following updates with input provided from all present: All Contracts EDT asked FCBC/JG/SRB to confirm appointment of Ecological Clerk of Works and provide Method Statement for Landscape CoW's role.	FCBC/JG/SRB
		Principal Contract General progress on site Tree felling commenced at St. Margaret's Hope and Inchgarvie. Trial blasting undertaken at St. Margaret's Hope and Whinney Hill. FCBC obtained bat licence to disturb bat roost at tree T17, St. Margaret's Hope Wood and T17 has been felled. Two additional	
		bat boxes have been installed at St. Margaret's Hope Wood by FCBC. The 21 day monitoring period is in progress at [location confidential – protected species] and [location confidential – protected species] setts following installation of exclusion fencing and gates 19/09/11.	
		Collection of noise baseline data from hand-held equipment week by FCBC completed 30/09/11.	
		FCBC currently in tender process for appointment of Marine Mammal Observer. Trial pits excavated by hand on 29/09/11 to check topsoil depth in areas where advance woodland planting will be undertaken at Castlandhill and Echline.	FCBC
		Estuarine bird surveys (including terns) ongoing and the survey data being collated. First quarterly update report to be completed by Mid October 2011 Consultation	EDT
		FCBC meeting with SEPA held 14/09/11 to discuss contaminated land. SEPA is content with the discussions.	
		Meeting with SNH held 29/09/11 and site walkover to discuss deer and any required mitigation. SNH to undertake thermal imaging survey to establish local deer population and provide report and recommendations. (Niall Corbet requested to be copied into all correspondence).	
		FCBC and SRB met FC, CEC and WLC to discuss and agree the strategy for construction air quality monitoring and also the location of weather stations.	

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		Other Appendix R submissions with EDT for review. • Alternative south shore access /revisions to size of two SUDS at Echline; and • Ferrytoll and Echline Compounds. • Marine Ground Investigation (GI).	EDT/FCBC
		Appendix R submissions to be submitted to EDT for review: • B981 realignment /revised SUDS layout at St. Margaret's Marsh. SNH wish to be consulted on this.	FCBC / EDT
4	General: Project Update continued	Fife ITS General progress on site The site compound and traffic management are now in place.	
		Design meeting held with EDT 01/09/11. JG to revise embankment design at Gantry 02 to ensure that additional mitigation for Parklea, as proposed by EDT, and maintenance thereafter can be implemented.	JG
4	General: Project Update	M9 J1A General progress on site Compound construction complete.	
	continued	Tree survey has been undertaken by SRB's aboriculturist and the report is to be submitted to EDT asap.	SRB
		Consultation SRB held meeting with Cramond Angling Club and SEPA regarding salmon and trout migration and spawning in the Niddry and Swine Burns. SEPA is satisfied that there is no cause for concern regarding salmon.	
		SRB submitted Flood Compensatory Storage drawings to SEPA.	
4	Advance	CAR licence for J1A has been transferred from EDT to SRB. EDT presented the following updates:	
	Works	Archaeology Programme of archaeological post excavation assessment, analysis and reporting ongoing by Headland under JV supervision. St. Margaret's Marsh Site condition monitoring survey completed by SNH. Report by	
		SNH due December 2011. Otters Swine Burn otter holt closure memo to be issued to SRB.	EDT
		Invasive Species BEAR completed existing contract with TS for spraying Japanese Knotweed on 30/09/11	
		Contract Supply Contract Supply progress meeting, held at Johnsons' nursery in Yorkshire 21/09/11.	
4	Review / Approval of environmental information	EDT will discuss the latest updated Environmental Management Plans (EMP) with the respective Contractor for upload to the website.	
4	Complaints / issues arising	JG has received a query regarding mitigation at Fife ITS gantry 02F. JG are currently formulating a response for review by EDT and approval to issue.	JG/EDT

Item	Subject	Description	Action
5	Principal Contract (FCBC)	FCB presented the following updates: Programme Site clearance is on-going Marine GI intention to begin week commencing 10/10/11. Commencement of land GI to be confirmed. Navigational lights to be installed in the Forth estuary October 2011 to identify exclusion zones. Plan for the Control of Noise and Vibration (PCNV) for the removal of beamer rock to be submitted asap. Relocation of Beamer Lighthouse (beacon) to be undertaken October to November 2011 Trial blasts on beamer rock to begin early November 2011. Dredging March to May 2012 Marine foundation works FCBC presented summary of the proposed marine foundation works and will present summary of the proposed land based GI at next ELG meeting. Outline programme for proposed marine foundation works is as follows: February 2012 – pier S7 March 2012 – piers S8 and N2 April 2012 – piers S3, S2 and S5 May 2012 – piers S4 and N1 To assist any Appendix R review, SNH requested that the differences between the methods agreed at tender stage and the proposed methods are clearly identified. If methods are unchanged and further detail is being provided, this should also be	FCBC
		clearly identified. FCBC is revisiting dates outlined in RIAA and assessing implications of any proposed changes.	FCBC
		Noise SMRU have been appointed to install two hydrophones on the existing Forth Road Bridge (one on the south pier and one on the north pier) to monitor for noise at frequencies detected by salmon. The hydrophones will be installed week commencing 10/10/11 to monitor ambient noise for four weeks followed by a wider range of frequencies thereafter.	FCBC
		EMP FCBC have consulted with all statutory bodies and dealt with comments. FCBC resubmitted version 2 EMP to EDT on 30/09/11. EDT to review with a view to uploading to the website.	EDT
6	Fife ITS (JG)	JG presented the following updates:	
		General The site compound is now occupied and traffic management is in place with average speed cameras in operation. Testing of noise from southbound bus lane pavement has been	
		undertaken.	
		<u>Programme</u>	

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		The following works are anticipated in the next month:	
		EMP JG resubmitted version 2 EMP to EDT on 01/10/11, which addresses comments from the community councils and statutory consultees. Historic Scotland has not provided comment. The ecological management plan will be re-issued to SNH for comment. EDT to review with a view to uploading to the website.	EDT
7	M9 J1A	SRB presented the following updates:	
	(SRB)	General Pre-construction ecological surveys have been undertaken.	
		Site clearance has commenced and tree felling is due to commence week beginning 10/10/11.	
		Arboricultural surveys are on-going and report will be submitted to EDT.	
		Air quality and noise monitoring have commenced.	
		A memo will be submitted to SNH providing details of the proposed mitigation for otters.	SRB
		EMP SRB resubmitted version 2 of the EMP to EDT on 20/09/11. EDT review completed 03/10/11, with a view to uploading to the website.	EDT
8	Any other business	SNH is content for consultation regarding landscape works to be replaced by EDT approval.	
		SRB enquired if consultees are still required to sign consult and comply certification where consultees have confirmed that they are content not be consulted regarding certain issues.	EDT
		EDT to consider and advise.	A .:
9	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting will be held 01/11/11 at 10.00hrs in Arrol House.	All