

**SCOTTISH FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS ADVISORY GROUP (SCOTFLAG)  
MEETING ON MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 13:00, VICTORIA QUAY**

**Present:** John Nicholls (Transport Scotland), Chair  
Margaret Horn (Transport Scotland)  
Michael Cairns (Tactran)  
Jim McCall (British International Freight Association)  
Douglas Norris (Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport)  
Chris MacRae (Freight Transport Association)  
Margaret Simpson (Freight Transport Association)  
Martin Reid (Road Haulage Association)  
David Spaven (Rail Freight Group)  
Frank Roach (Hitrans)  
Richard Ballantyne (British Ports Association)  
Pam Stott (Transport Scotland)  
Bob Bridges (Transport Scotland), Secretariat

**Apologies:** Rab Dickson (Nestrans)  
Gareth Williams (Scottish Council for Development and Industry)  
Tony Jarvis (Highlands and Islands Enterprise)  
Adrian Brown (Scottish Enterprise)

**Guest:** Simon Bonsall (Scottish Government, Planning) – Agenda Item 4

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**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

1. Members were welcomed to the meeting.

**MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

2. Chris MacRae highlighted an error in the minutes of the last meeting which referred to 'HLOS 6' and confused a reference to HLOS and a reference to Control Period 6. Subject to this change the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2014 were agreed.
3. There were no actions outstanding from the last meeting.

**SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FREIGHT TRANSPORT INQUIRY**

4. The Group was informed that a debate on the Report had taken place in the Scottish Parliament on 10 September. Members (including those who had given evidence to the committee) had not been informed about the debate in advance: It was thought this may have been due to confusion around the final arrangements. It was agreed that the transcript from the debate should be circulated to ScotFLAG members.

**Action 1: TS to circulate link to Official Report transcript of Committee debate.**  
**[Done]**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10073&mode=pdf>

5. Comments on the Committee's report included:

- Comprehensive, but recommendations not prioritised.
- Good document. Reiterates a market-led approach.
- Infrastructure recommendations need to reflect market demands.
- Addressing 'last mile' issues could meet many of Committee's concerns re congestion, fuel burning etc.
- Potential for SG to take back responsibility for key local roads from local authorities.
- Need to consider what is possible rather than unrealistic options due to budget constraints.
- Potential to establish ScotFLAG sub-groups to consider Committee's recommendations discussed
- A sub-Group on urban freight issues (linking to FTA paper referred to in paragraph 11); and another to consider 'last mile' to port and rail freight hubs initially highlighted.

**Action 2: TS to draft remits for potential sub-groups.**

6. Following the Minister's commitment to review the Freight Action Plan as part of the wider NTS refresh, comments were sought on the aims, vision and objectives of the existing Freight Action Plan by 21 September. British Ports Association had prepared an updated paper on ports for consideration.

**Action 3: TS to circulate Aims, Vision and Objectives of Freight Action Plan.**  
**[Done]**

**Action 4: TS to confirm timescales for NTS refresh**

**Action 5: Richard Ballantyne to submit paper for circulation to members.**  
**[Done]**

**NPF 3 Sub-Group**

7. Simon Bonsall joined the meeting for this item.

8. The discussion touched on the process for arriving at the list of prioritised projects, but largely focussed on the individual projects. There were comments about the lack of recognition of road projects, specifically the A82 and A83, and the need for the list to be progressed in a mode-neutral environment and reflect the economic reality of supporting the Scottish economy.

9. There was also a discussion about how the work of the sub-group would feed in to NPF 4 and the timetable for doing so.
10. Simon Bonsall left the meeting.

**Action 6: Chris MacRae to provide clarification on freight on West Coast Main Line as opposed to freight movement by road.**

**Freight Transport Association – Efficient Logistics**

11. Chris MacRae introduced the paper for information. It was the sister document to a paper for London which sets out the FTA's consideration of issues in respect of urban logistics. There was a discussion around the potential for ScotFLAG sub-groups to be established to consider urban deliveries and last mile deliveries. It was agreed that the FTA paper could contribute to the thinking of any ScotFLAG sub-group considering urban deliveries.
12. The Group discussed and agreed that RTPs and FQPs may have an opportunity to co-ordinate at a regional level.

**AOB**

Branchliner

13. Frank Roach introduced a paper on the movement of timber in the Flow Country. The discussion touched on the consideration of a potential alliance creating a single point of contact for the purchase of timber and the need to avoid hauliers signing up to move timber by rail, only for other hauliers to access vacated road routes and undercut rail haulage.



Hitrans Branchliner  
Paper

Prestwick Airport

14. Jim McCall introduced the paper which set out Prestwick place in the Scottish network and explored the potential for Prestwick to increase its share of the freight market. The Chair commented that there are now 4 non-executive directors on the Prestwick Airport board and offered to pass the paper to the board for information.



Prestwick Airport  
Paper

**Action 7: TS to send discussion paper to Prestwick Airport board.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

15. Exact date to be agreed, but likely to be March 2016.