

Meeting of the 'Road to Rail' Sub Group Held in Victoria Quay on 16 August 2012 at 09.30pm

Present: Pam Stott (Transport Scotland)
Jim May (Transport Scotland)
Chris MacRae (Freight transport Scotland)
Phil Flanders (Road Haulage Association)

By Telephone: David Spaven (Rail Freight Group)
Gillian Hastie (Transport Scotland)

Apologies: Douglas Norris (Charters Institute of Logistics and Transport)

1. The following **topics** were discussed:

- a. May seminar: Pam Stott said an online survey had been completed by the majority of delegates who attended the seminar in May. It demonstrated that a majority had found the event useful and would be in favour of a series of regional road-shows to discuss specific issues across Scotland.
- b. Next steps: Pam Stott said that if a road-show was to be considered, certain matters had to be considered e.g.:
 - i. who would facilitate it;
 - ii. what issues would it consider;
 - iii. when it will take place;
 - iv. where it will be held etc.
- c. Potential road-show:
 - i. David Spaven felt that any road-show had to deal with specific issues relating to rail corridors in Scotland. Probably the best one to tackle would be the central belt to Aberdeen. It would be beneficial to invite Rail Freight Operators (RFO's) to attend.
 - ii. Chris MacRae believed that a lack of commercial confidence existed between some hauliers and those who could move goods on rail for them. This needed to be bridged.
 - iii. Phil Flanders was confident that either Malcolm's and / or Russell's would get involved, they could show how a freight train is loaded / unloaded. This could then be coupled with workshops and a Q&A session to make it a full day event which could be held in the Autumn. After general discussion it was agreed that early in 2013 would be a more suitable date for an event to take place.
- d. Format of road-show: Pam Stott: stated the format would be based around:
 - i. to be held in late January / early February 2013;
 - ii. themed as a corridor specific event;
 - iii. a practical demonstration followed by a workshop, these activities could be spread over 2 locations;
 - iv. RFO's forming a panel to do a Q&A session after the workshop.

2. The following **actions** were agreed:

- a. Phil Flanders to liaise with Malcolm's and Russell's to ascertain if either could give a demonstration on loading / unloading a freight train.
- b. Jim May to source a site for the workshop element of the event.

- c. David Spaven to liaise with RFO's regarding taking part in a potential Q&A session.
- d. Pam Stott to ask Rab Dickson to chair the workshop section of the event.