

Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland

Main Committee Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on
Tuesday 24 July 2018

Conference Room 2,
Victoria Quay Edinburgh

Easy Read



Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Apologies

A Convener leads the work of MACS. The Convener is called Linda Bamford.



Agenda Item 1.1

Linda Bamford started the meeting by thanking Jillian Gilchrist who has left the team at Transport Scotland.



Welcome

Linda also welcomed Sandy Taylor, a member of the National Federation of the Blind UK, who was in attendance.



Agenda Item 1.2

All members were at the meeting.

The Convener noted that Agenda Item 8 was a closed session for members only.



Agenda Item 2: Minutes of MACS meeting in April 2018, matters arising and action points.

Agenda Item 2.1

The minutes from the meeting on 24 April 2018 were a true record of the meeting.



Agenda Item 2.2

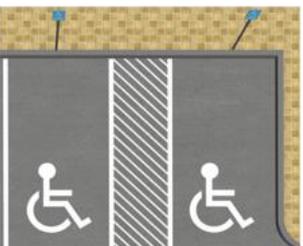
There is a new Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Connectivity and Infrastructure. His name is Mr Michael Matheson. He has replaced Mr Humza Yousaf.

Mr Matheson has been invited to the October 2018 meeting but he has not yet said if he will come.

	<p>Agenda Item 2.3</p> <p>There were no other matters from the April meeting.</p>
 <p>Department for Transport</p>	<p>Agenda Item 2.4</p> <p>Only one action from the April 2018 meeting is still to be completed.</p> <p>Agenda Item 2.4a</p> <p>Karl Zaczek is to find out about progress of the new DfT guidance on tactile surfaces.</p> <p>It was agreed that Roads, Infrastructure and Active Travel Workstream will take over this action.</p> <p>Agenda Item 2.4b</p> <p>Karl Zaczek is to give an update on progress on the Inclusive Mobility Document review after being at a meeting in London.</p> <p>Action Point 1: Karl Zaczek to attend and provide an update to MACS on the review of the Inclusive Mobility</p>

	<p>Document at the October 2018 main Committee meeting.</p>
 	<p>Agenda Item 3: Convener Update</p> <p>Agenda Item 3.1</p> <p>Each year, members of MACS have an appraisal. This is a review of how well the members are performing.</p> <p>The Convener suggested that MACS member's annual appraisal should not be done by the Convener, but by the workstream leads.</p> <p>There would be training to help them do the appraisals.</p> <p>This will happen next year.</p> <p>The Convener would discuss with the Leads who would do the appraisal if members are in more than one workstream.</p> <p>The Convener will do the appraisals for the workstream Leads.</p> <p>Everyone agreed with this idea.</p>

	<p>Agenda Item 3.2</p> <p>The Convener also tested the idea of having a Vice Convener role. This person would help when the Convener was not available.</p> <p>Workstream leads can apply.</p> <p>Everyone agreed with this idea.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3</p> <p>The Convener had a meeting on 21 June 2018 with Mr Humza Yousaf. He used to be the Minister for Transport and the Islands. She also met with Ms Jeane Freeman, who was the Minister for Social Security.</p> <p>Mr Yousaf said that MACS was doing good work across different parts of Government.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3a</p> <p>Claire Smith, who is the Head of Accessible Travel, gave an update on the Accessible Travel Framework. Work is ongoing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have an annual delivery plan • Have a new Strategic Board that will include MACS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a new communications plan • Have governance in place
	<p>Even though some of the Ministers have changed, all the plans will still go ahead with Mr Matheson.</p> <p>New funding will be available through Active Travel and work is ongoing to make sure there is money for accessibility in Transport Scotland's budget.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3b</p> <p>The Convener said that Mr Yousaf wanted to increase awareness of the challenges disabled people face when travelling on public transport; especially parking in accessible parking spaces without a Blue Badge.</p> <p>It was agreed that a campaign to raise awareness was needed.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3c</p> <p>The Convener also spoke to Mr Yousaf about Equality Impact Assessments. He agreed that disabled people should be involved from the beginning to give their views.</p>

	<p>Action Point 2. Karen Armstrong to draft a letter to the Minister about the need to involve disabled people in Equality Impact Assessments.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3d</p> <p>The Convener and Ministers discussed having a Year dedicated to disability and accessibility. The first available year would be 2021.</p> <p>The Accessibility Team are finding out more.</p> <p>Action Point 3: Karen Armstrong to provide an update on having an Accessibility Theme Year 2021.</p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3.3e</p> <p>Motability was discussed with the Ministers to make sure MACS is involved at early planning stages of policy.</p> <p>Motability was discussed in more detail under Agenda Item 8 to agree MACS approach to progressing work with Motability.</p>



Agenda Item 4. Secretariat Update

The members were concerned that there would only be 2 wheelchair spaces on each train.



Action Point 4: Karen Armstrong will speak to Transport Scotland's Rail Accessibility Manager to find out what the plan is to decide how many wheelchair spaces should be on each train.



Agenda Item 4.2

It was agreed that the subsidies for bus operators under the bus service operating grants had no impact on the passenger.

But if the bus company cannot afford to run the bus service, then it might stop, leaving people with no bus service at all.



Agenda Item 4.3

The Convener thanked everyone for the Secretariat Update paper.



Agenda Item 5. MACS members talked about their recent activities

Agenda Item 5a. Shared Space Working Group

It was agreed this would be discussed under Agenda Item 7.

Agenda Item 5b. Scottish Rail Accessibility Forum

Members agreed that the Passenger Assistance service was not consistent and more training for staff providing Passenger Assist was needed.

Action Point 5: Karen Armstrong to speak to Patrick Nyamurundira about training for staff delivering Passenger Assistance service.

Agenda Item 5.c

Marsali Craig has represented MACS at the Civil Aviation Authority's Conference on Accessibility for People with Reduced Mobility at the British-Irish Airports Conference in London.



Marsali felt that the airline staff at the Conference listened to the message about improving accessibility.

The Committee talked about services for disabled people at airports. Most people did not have good experiences, but a report called Airport Accessibility Report 2017/18, written by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said that airports were good for disabled travellers. There was a need for closer working with the Transport Scotland Aviation Team.

Action Point 6: MACS will invite a representative from the CAA to present at a Committee meeting or at Development Day.



Agenda Item 6: Briefing Templates for Leads - discussion

The Convener asked for the Committee's approval to introduce briefing templates for workstream leads to help discussion for each workplan.

This will give the Committee more time for discussion at future meetings.

Agenda Item 6.2

Members approved the new template and it was agreed that external meeting reports would be for information, and not discussed at Main Committee meetings.





Agenda Item 7. Workstream' Leads Update on Priorities for the Next Reporting Period.

Agenda Item 7.1 Bus and Community Transport

Sheila Fletcher gave an update on the progress of work in the Bus and Community Transport workstream.



Agenda Item 7.1a

It was agreed that MACS should respond to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee's call for views on Transport (Scotland) Bill.



Action Point 7: David Hunter to coordinate members' response to views on the Transport (Scotland) Bill before 21 August 2018



Department
for Transport



Agenda Item 7.1b

It was agreed that either Sheila Fletcher or Hussein Patwa should lead the Committee's response to the Department of Transport. They want feedback on accessible information.

Sheila and Hussein will discuss who is best placed to respond by 16 September 2018.

Agenda Item 7.1c.



The members talked about the results of a consultation on Community Transport and its impact on volunteer drivers. MACS members agreed to stay aware of any important issues.

Agenda Item 7.1d



The members talked about the need to have Equality Impact Assessments done on buses before any changes take place. This would involve disabled people.

Agenda item 7.1e



The Planning and Strategy Workstream had a positive meeting with the Bill Team about bus services.

The Workstream will be asked for input on the Equality Impact Assessments as the Bill progresses.

Agenda item 7.2 Ferries and Airports

Hilary Stubbs said that the Ferry Accessibility Fund would be available next year and people can still apply for this money.



Hilary Stubbs has met with Aberdeen Airport. This is a new relationship. MACS wants to do more with Airports this year.



Action Point 8: Transport Scotland staff to set up a meeting between Ferries and Airports workstream and Transport Scotland Aviation Policy Team.



Agenda item 7.3

MACS and the Accessibility Team co-hosted a visit from Turkish Officials.

This was a good way to tell them about the work MACS do.

The Convener thanked the Transport Scotland staff for organising the visit.



The Convener also presented the Annual Report to members. Everyone agreed the new format was good.

The Convener thanked Robert Wyllie and Aga Lysak for writing it.

Agenda Item 7.4 - Rail

Hussein Patwa and Marsali Craig talked about their work for the last three months:



- They gave evidence to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee on accessibility;
- had meetings with ScotRail and their Access and Inclusion Manager;
- advised how Passenger Assistance could be better;

- spoke with other train operators;
and
- gave their thoughts on the Cross
Country Passenger Rail franchise.

This information helped ScotRail design their new 385 trains.

Agenda Item 7.4a



Thanks to Robert Wyllie, the Rail Workstream has a good relationship with the Office for Rail and Road. There will be quarterly meetings now for MACS to provide feedback and advice.

Agenda Item 7.4b



MACS has also been working on hate crime, reducing the employability gap and have been testing Scottish Government websites to make sure they are accessible.



Agenda Item 7.4c

In the future, there will be more stations without any staff. MACS would like train stations to have staff as it helps disabled people feel safer and means they can speak to someone face to face. The Rail Workstream will work to make sure disabled people are safe.

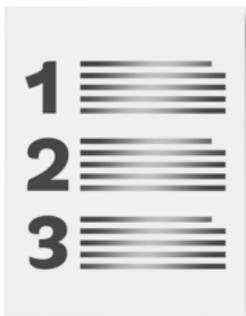


Agenda item 7.4d

Robert Wyllie was thanked for helping set up meetings for the Workstream and the Accessibility Manager at Transport Scotland. The first meeting was good.

Agenda item 7.5

Planning and Strategy



David Hunter talked about the work that the Planning and Strategy Workstream were doing. This includes:

- The Transport (Scotland) Bill
- Accessible Travel Framework Delivery Plan
- Department for Transport and Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee Inclusive Travel Strategy; and

- National Transport Strategy Review.

Agenda item 7.6

Roads, Infrastructure and Active Travel

Keith Robertson said this work has talked about -



- A9 dualling
- A96 dualling
- Roads for All Forum
- Longman junction in Inverness
- Shared space
- Parking standards
- Getting more disabled people working in local councils.

Agenda item 7.6a



Keith spoke about shared space. This is where there are no kerbs to show the difference between the road and the pavement. Cars and people share the same space.

Agenda item 7.6b



Keith spoke about shared space in more detail and how it is working now. There have been issues with shared space and Keith wants more research done with people who have responsibility for how streets are designed.

Agenda item 7.6c



The Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC) have written how they feel about shared space. Keith Robertson said MACS should not just agree with this, and should wait to know what the Scottish Government's research finds out.

Agenda item 7.6d

Keith said MACS would keep on listening to what disabled people said about shared space and what they said about the name.

Agenda item 7.6e



The membership of the “Shared Space Working Group” agreed to do research and to talk to people about shared space. MACS had agreed the rules for this work.

Agenda item 7.6f

It was agreed to talk to people about shared spaces on busy streets.

Agenda item 7.6g



The Convener summed up this issue, and asked for these questions to be answered -

- Were MACS and other interested groups involved in this working group?
- Did the group agree what was to happen next?
- Were MACS part of agreement for the kinds of questions to be asked in more research?
- Will MACS still be involved with the work of this group?



It was agreed this was correct.



Agenda item 7.6h

All members agreed that MACS supported street designs that everyone could use and be safe. MACS would keep working for streets that everyone can use. MACS will give advice if needed to the working group.

Agenda item 7.6i

The Convener will tell everyone about any new things happening in Shared Spaces.

Agenda item 8 (private meeting of MACS and sponsors)

Agenda item 8.1

Private meeting for MACS members only, no notes were taken.

Agenda item 9 Any Other Business

Agenda item 9.1



Hussein Patwa said he was worried that when he goes to the DPTAC meetings as a MACS representative, he doesn't have information from other MACS members about what he should discuss beforehand. So he asked members to send him any information they want to be discussed at the DPTAC meeting so he can forward that to DPTAC before

the meeting. This will give them time to prepare the response. This was agreed.