

TMfS Newsletter – April 2008

Project Title:	Term Commission for the Maintenance and Enhancement of the Transport Model for Scotland
Newsletter Number:	3
Author(s):	Stephen Canning
Date:	9 April 2008

Welcome to the third newsletter for the Transport Model for Scotland (TMfS). Over the remaining term of the commission, Transport Scotland, MVA Consultancy and David Simmonds Consultancy (DSC) will be releasing newsletters on a quarterly basis, providing an update on the progress of the commission.

This newsletter reviews the milestones and developments in the commission in the first quarter of 2008.

User Engagement

4th TMfS User Group Day – 1 May 2008

The fourth TMfS User Group Day will be held in the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh on 1 May 2008. Invitations to the day have recently been issued and we would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the event. The proposed programme for the day is as follows:

Core Team Speakers

- 10:30-10:50 Introduction and welcome
(Hugh Gillies / David Anderson, Transport Scotland)
- 10:50-11:20 Enhancement Program / Regional sub-models
(Kevin Lumsden, MVA Consultancy)
- 11:20-11:45 TELMoS
(David Simmonds / Andy Dobson, David Simmonds Consultancy)
- 11:45-12:00 Coffee Break

Key Planning Speakers

- 12:00-12:30 Scottish Planning Directorate (Steven Hall)
- 12:30-13:00 Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan (provisionally Graham Buchan)
- 13:00-13:45 Lunch

Break Out Session A – Modelling Applications of TMfS

- 13:45-14:15 Forth Crossing Team (Lawrence Shackman / Iain MacDonald)
- 14:15-14:45 ENEVAL/Emissions (Kevin Lumsden, MVA Consultancy)



Break Out Session B - Planning

- 13:45-14:15 The Role of Strategic Modelling in Development Planning – workshop (Bill Smith and Hugh Gillies, Transport Scotland)
- 14:15-14:45 GROS Households (Esther Roughsedge)

Other Developing TMfS uses

- 14:50-15:20 NHS GG&C / JMP (Niall McGrogan / Kelvin Clarke)
- 15:20-15:30 TMfS Communications (Emily Seaman, Transport Scotland)
- 15:30-15:35 Sum-up and Goodbye (Hugh Gillies, Transport Scotland)
- 15:35-16:00 Questions

The format of the day has been defined using your Exit Questionnaire and general feedback from the previous events. We will be holding break-out sessions in the afternoon and running demonstration stands. The day itself has a strong focus on planning issues and the actual application of the model.

Non-Technical Guide to TMfS and Protocol Report for TMfS

As part of our commitment to improving customer engagement, we are preparing a Non-Technical Guide to TMfS and Protocol Report for the use for TMfS. The Non-Technical Guide will provide a simplified introduction to transport modelling and the capabilities of TMfS/TELMoS. The document will be broken down into a number of sections and presented in a web based format.

The Protocol Report will outline how to apply for the use of TMfS and outline the protocols that should be followed when using the model and/or its data.

Model Development

Significant strides have been taken in model development since the publication of the December newsletter. The new National Model, TMfS:07, is due for release in late summer 2008 and will include new planning and transport data as well as a significant package of enhancements. An update on the development of TMfS:07 will be provided at the 1 May User Group Day.

As well as the development of a new national model, Transport Scotland has recently commissioned the preparation of a TMfS sub-model for the Forth area. The specification of this model will be defined in the near future but its primary purpose is for use in the analysis of the Forth Replacement Crossing.

Data Collection

Transport Scotland's appointed data collection consultants have recently undertaken a number of data collection tasks, including:

- Bus passenger surveys on all key routes around Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness,
- Park and Ride passenger surveys, and
- Roadside Interviews.

The data collection programme will be ongoing over the next two years, with prospective collection including the updating of aged existing data and the collection of new data to feed into regional models, such as that being prepared for the Forth Crossing.

Model Applications

A wide range of model applications are currently being undertaken using TMfS. Current applications include the Forth Crossing Replacement, 50 Year Carbon Projections and TACTRAN Park and Ride.

TMfS is also being used more widely in planning circles as well as in its core transport field. For example, the model has recently been used to assess the impacts of the Glasgow City Plan II and the Edinburgh and Lothians Development Plan.

The Replacement Forth Crossing application of TMfS will also be presented at the forthcoming User Group Day.

There is an increasing range and quantity of TMfS applications being undertaken and it is hoped that, as the model is developed through increasing application, the pool of users will continue to widen and the model will continue to evolve and improve.

Annual Report

An Annual Report detailing the developments and performance of the TMfS Commission is published at each anniversary of the commission appointment. The year one Annual Report is available on the TMfS Website. Thoughts are now turning to the second Annual Report and comments on its possible content are welcomed. Details of how to contact us are at the end of this newsletter.

Audit

The audit of TMfS:05a and TELMoS:05a is complete. The TMfS Auditor is currently preparing for the forthcoming audit of TMfS:07 and TELMoS:07.

TMfS Website

The TMfS Website is undergoing continuing development and we would encourage you to visit the website regularly to check for new documentation that has been added.

The website also contains a satisfaction questionnaire and we would appreciate if you could take a few moments to fill this in as it will assist in future development of this facility.

TMfS Wider Use

The use of TMfS has traditionally been heavily concentrated in assessing transport schemes and policies but Transport Scotland are making a conscious effort to broaden the appeal of the model. As mentioned, TMfS is now much more widely used in planning circles, while a dialogue has also been opened with groups such as Scottish Water and the Scottish Government Health Department.

Model Use

We would like to remind all prospective model users that a TMfS Model Request Form must be submitted for consideration before the model and/or its data can be released for use. It is also a condition of this process that users fill in a TMfS User Satisfaction Form upon completion of their application. A copy of these forms is available for download on the TMfS Website.

Any Other Queries?

If you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact the TMfS Support Team at TMfSupport@mvaconsultancy.com

