

Welcome to the February 2009 Newsletter for the Land Use and Transport Integration in Scotland (LATIS) service. These newsletters are published on a quarterly basis, providing an update on the progress of LATIS.

This newsletter reviews the milestones and developments in the LATIS Service between November 2008 and January 2009.

Land Use and Transport Integration in Scotland (LATIS)

On 6 November 2008, LATIS became the new name for the full service provided by Transport Scotland and their supporting consultants in relation to the Transport Model for Scotland (TMfS) and the Transport, Economic, Land-use Model of Scotland (TELMoS).

The purpose of the name change was to more explicitly recognise the role that the service played in facilitating decision making across a range of policy areas, including transport, planning, the environment, demographics, health, education

and the utilities as well as emphasising that the service provided is more than the models and their application.

LATIS builds upon the work undertaken in previous years and is highly focused on user engagement and the promotion of technical excellence and improvement. It consists of four distinct elements:

- User engagement – a continuous programme of consultations and discussion events on a range of issues, including the development, application and enhancements of LATIS;

- Modelling – use and support for the transport and land-use model TMfS/TELMoS;

- Planning – the collection and provision of planning data and support to Development Planning Agenda; and

- Data Collection – the collection of transport and travel data and other user specified data through the use of the Data Collection Contract.

More information about the LATIS service is available at the LATIS website at www.latis.org.uk

User Engagement

6 November 2008 User Group Day

The 5th User Group Day was held on 6 November 2008 in the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh. We would like to extend our thanks to all 102 delegates who attended from Transport Scotland, Scottish Government, Regional Transport Partnerships, Local Authorities, consultants and other interested parties.

The day marked the launch of the new LATIS service and its website, provided updates on the development and improvements of the TMfS:07 / TELMoS:07 model and introduced the emerging Development Planning agenda and what the LATIS service will be doing to support this reform of the planning process.

Feedback from the day was very positive, with almost all delegates finding the event to be either 'Very Useful' or 'Quite Useful'. Importantly, nearly two thirds of delegates felt that their perception of the full service offered has changed with the evolution to LATIS.

In addition, more in-depth technical information for these events was requested – we are looking to hold a technical event in the end of April to provide more technical details about LATIS and its modelling suite, TMfS and TELMoS.

Presentations from the day can be found on the LATIS website.



Annual Report

The 2008 Annual Report will be published on the LATIS website at the end of January. The report assesses how the then TMfS Commission performed against its twin aims of delivering **customer engagement** and **technical excellence** and reflects on how far it

contributed towards delivering the overarching **Purpose of the Scottish Government**. Areas covered include user engagement, project management, data collection, model development and applications and the next steps for the year ahead.

Protocol for the use of LATIS

The Protocol report for the use of LATIS has been completed and is available at the LATIS website. The document explains the process of how to apply and use the LATIS service and details the support offered throughout the process.

LATIS and TMfS Websites

A new LATIS website and a refreshed TMfS/TELMoS website were both introduced at the User Group Day in November. Both websites continue their programme of enhancements and further development. As part of the programme we have established a new domain for the LATIS service available at www.latis.org.uk. This new do-

main hosts most of the LATIS related information with the webpage on the Transport Scotland site at (<http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/reports/scottish-transport-analysis-guidance/LATIS>) hosting top level information and links to both the modelling and main LATIS websites.

latis.org.uk hosts a wide range of information related to the service, including details on User engagement, the Data collection and the Development Planning Agenda.

To assist us in future development of both facilities, we would welcome your feedback on the websites.

Technical Enhancements

Model Development

TMfS:07 / TELMoS:07 model

The development of the TMfS:07/TELMoS:07 base and forecast models has now been concluded. The reports associated with the development of the constituent models have been submitted to the Transport Scotland's Traffic and Transportation Advisor and

Auditor (TTAA). Furthermore, Do Minimum and Reference Case scenarios are currently in preparation. To make use of this modelling process, a LATIS Request Form (available from the web site) should be completed and submitted prior to use.

Forth Regional Model

The TMfS:07 sub-model for the Forth area – the “Forth Regional Model” has also been completed. The model is currently undergoing an audit.

Data Collection

The appointed Data Collection Consultants continue in their collection of data and additional validation data which will feed into the TMfS:07 capabilities at a later

date. They also continue to support the Concessionary Fares team at Transport Scotland in their data collection programme.



LATIS Support for Planning Reform

The LATIS service and, in particular, the modelling suite, will be used to prepare ‘baseline data’ to assist planning authorities in the development of unitary, local and regional plans.

The Base line information will provide a range of model outputs to appraise proposed development plans on network performance, accessibility, economy and the environment.



Audit

The Audit of TMfS:07/TELMoS:07 model is presently underway by the TTA. The key elements of the of the audit of the models is anticipated to be complete by early Spring 2009.

LATIS Applications

Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR)

The TMfS/TELMoS model provided support to the STPR team in defining the most appropriate strategic investments in Scotland's national transport network from 2012. The recommended portfolio of land-based strategic trans-

port interventions was announced by Parliament on 10 December 2008.

A range of other LATIS applications are ongoing and encouragingly its capabilities are being explored in a wider range of policy areas.



LATIS Wider Use

To further the awareness of LATIS, extended customer engagement, as well as close liaison with key agencies, is ongoing. Examples of such liaisons include:



- continued consultations with the LATIS User Group, key partners and agencies to discuss the means by which LATIS can support policy in their area;
- ongoing support for the modernisation of the planning agenda;
- working with Local Authorities and Structure Plan Teams to coordinate the sharing of planning data;
- ensuring the LATIS modelling suite maintains synergies with other modelling practices that are within or concern Scotland (for example: SITM & SITLUM (SPT), NTM (DFT));
- ongoing support for the Scottish Government in developing its climate change work;
- ongoing liaisons with the General Register Office for Scotland with regards to population and demographic forecasting;
- ongoing support for the Scottish Government and ferry providers in delivering their forthcoming ferry review;
- development of recently established links with groups such as Scottish Water, the Scottish Government Health Directorate and the Concessionary Fares team; and

A full review of these liaisons is available in the Annual Report.

Use of the service

We would like to remind all prospective users that a LATIS Request Form is required to be submitted for consideration before the service, model and/or data can be released for use. It is also a condition of this process that users fill in a User Satisfaction Form upon completion of their application. We would like to re-emphasise this point as we are seeking as much feedback as possible to help us deliver continuous technical improvement and your satisfaction. Both LATIS Request Form and User Satisfaction Form are available at the LATIS website.

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