



Advising Scottish Ministers
on Accessible Travel

MACS



Committee Meeting Minutes

Part 2 of 2



18 October 2022



Easy Read



David said that MACS should have been invited to the working groups organised by the Active Travel Team.

The working groups are working on the new cycling consultations.



New Action Point 5:

Daniel will ask his team to invite MACS.

He will also tell them how important walking and wheeling are to disabled people.



Linda said that Disability Equality Scotland is working with Sustrans and local Access Panels.

They are making more people know about disabled people's needs.



Hilary asked if Transport Scotland can get the Aviation Team to work closer with them.

Ally said that they had asked the Aviation Team to meet with MACS but nothing has happened.

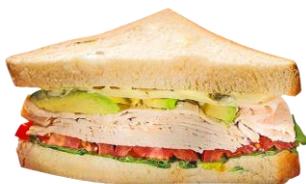


New Action Point 6:

Ally will sort out a call with the Aviation Team to ask them more about making accessibility better for disabled people travelling by plane.



Joanne said that in her local area some buses are not running. Instead there are some coaches – but these are not accessible for some disabled people.



There was a break in the meeting for lunch.



5 – Updates from the Leaders of the Workstreams

Update about Planning and Strategy from David



David said he has written 2 letters to Ben Macpherson – Minister for Social Security.

He wrote to ask Mr Macpherson to ask Motability to give some of their **profits** back to disabled customers.



Profit is the extra money that an organisation keeps after they have paid all their bills.



David said that Motability makes 1 hundred million pounds every month.

But we are living in a **cost of living crisis** and this does not seem fair.



The **cost of living crisis** means that many people in the UK are finding it very hard to pay for things like:

- food
- energy bills
- housing



David said he had also talked to Social Security Scotland to see if more organisations can become **accredited**.

Accredited means checked carefully and allowed to offer their services.

At the moment Motability is the only accredited organisation.



David met with Transport Scotland to talk about the details of making fewer car journeys by 2030.



Linda said that the Scoping Day paperwork will say how MACS work will link to the **Programme for Government**.

The **Programme for Government** is a document that says what actions the Scottish Government will do every year.



Update about Buses, Taxis and Community Transport from Graham and Audrey



Graham said he had been to the Community Transport Association **conference**.



A **conference** is a meeting to talk about something like a project or a plan.



He has a meeting with David Kelly – the new Director for Scotland - next month.



The Scottish Government Primary Care team say the advisory group will stop meeting.



The advisory group was about using transport to get to Health and Social Care appointments.



MACS is very disappointed that the group is stopping. We will write to Humza Yousaf – the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care.



There was talk about how this news will change things for MACS work.

Ally said his team will think about their next steps about this news.



Audrey said she is organising a Development Day on 13 December 2022.

It will be about **Equality and Human Rights**.

Human Rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to everyone.

And **equality** is making life and human rights fairer.

Update about Ferries and Aviation from Hilary

Hilary said that there was a new round of the Ferry Accessibility Fund.

This means projects can ask for some money to make ferry travel easier for disabled people.



Hilary said she is happy to be a member of the Island Connectivity Plan stakeholder group.

The group has been talking to **local councils**.



Local councils work with local people and organisations to:

- give services to the local area
- make decisions about the local area



Hilary might go to the new Glen Sannox ferry in 2023.

This visit might join up with the August 2023 Development Day about ferries.



Update about Rail from Simon



There is a new UK Minister for Transport.

Some rail ticket offices are going to be closed in England.

Simon answered a consultation about closing ticket offices in Scotland.



Simon said that he is a member of an advisory group for Great British Railways.

He is waiting to see if the same closures will happen in Scotland too.



He said that he has been asked to help with some equality assessments for Transport Scotland Rail.

And he hopes to meet the Director – Bill Reeve.



Update about Roads, Infrastructures and Active Travel from Susan



There are some good events happening soon, like:

- the Strathclyde Passenger Transport event
- a shared transport conference



Susan said that the guidance about electric vehicle charging points called Publicly Available Specification is just guidance, not rules.

The British Standards organisation wants it to be made into rules.

Many disabled people were asked what they thought about the guidance.



At future meetings Susan said she wants to talk about making a group of documents.

These new documents will say what MACS thinks about lots of different projects and ideas.



Susan said she is beginning work on a cycling consultation.

6 – Key Messages for Twitter



Everyone agreed what the Twitter messages should be about.

They will be about Sustainable and Active Travel.



7 - Any Other Business – was there anything else that people wanted to talk about?

During the pandemic, some MACS meetings were put as **optional**.

Optional means that staff did not have to come to these meetings. They could come if they wanted.





Linda said she thought it would be better to stop these optional meetings.

She said that this would make more time for Workstream events.

Everyone agreed.



New Action Point 7:

Linda will take optional meetings off the 2023 list.



Everyone agreed to call Main Committee Meetings Legislative a new name.

They are now called Board Meetings.

9 – End of Meeting



Linda thanked everyone for coming and she closed the meeting.