

## Scottish Environmental Noise Steering Group (SENSG)

### Notes of First Meeting – 24 October 2007 Room 1F57/58 Victoria Quay Edinburgh

#### Present:

David Wallace (DW) - Scottish Government and SENSG Chair  
Duncan McNab (DM) - Scottish Government  
Linda Story (LS) - Scottish Government  
Martin Valenti (MV) - SEPA  
Dr Bernadette McKell (BM) – Hamilton McGregor  
Alastair Brown (AB) – Glasgow City Council – Glasgow Chair  
Steve Williamson (SW) – Edinburgh City Council – Edinburgh Chair  
Drew Hill (DH) – Transport Scotland – Roads and Transport Chair

#### Apologies

Alastair Young (AY) – Transport Scotland – Rail  
Nick Evans (NE) – Scottish Government Attended later.

#### 1. Welcome and Action Points from Inception Meeting:

DW welcomed everyone and suggested that the action points would be covered in the course of the agenda.

#### 2. Domestic Arrangements for 29 October

- 2.1 Agreement on format for the Day. 11:00 start in conference room 10-15 mins presentation then break out into individual meeting rooms for working groups. Reconvene at 3:00pm for summing up and questions. DW confirmed that SG would provide secretariat and costs for meetings of working groups. It was agreed that a presentation on the background to the directive and regs, maps and format would be prepared to be delivered at the working group meeting. **Action – MV/BM.**

#### 3. Briefing Papers for Working Groups

- 3.1 A Briefing paper for working groups summarising the Action Planning Guidance was noted. BM explained that the population exposure as required by the directive had been completed and would be presented to working groups. Agreed that meetings need to take place in a room where there is a live link to the noise mapping website Action to ensure that the IT is available in each room LS.
- 3.2 Need to include in briefing a note of what can and what cannot be provided by way of support from consultants **Action BM** Discussion took place on the need to provide guidance on a shell of the report contents page and structure. It was agreed that it is a bit early to tie that down. DW reminded everyone that the EU only want a summary of the Action Plan of no more than 10 pages and that there should be No Gold Plating.

#### 4. Composition of Working Groups

- 4.1 It was agreed that while the working groups would have a core membership, people would be co opted as necessary in essence they could have “morphing” memberships.
- 4.2 AB reported that he had agreed membership from each local authority in the Glasgow Agglomeration but there were gaps in respect of Planning and Roads representation. LS agreed that she would write to the appropriate people asking for their assistance. On representation from Port noise it was felt that the working groups should be restricted to Public bodies and the EHO’s know enough about port noise within their areas to address the issue at least in the first instance.
- 4.3 SW reported that had secured the cooperation of most of the necessary representation for the Edinburgh Agglomeration although Planning representation from East and Midlothian remains to be secured. LS agreed that she would write to the appropriate people asking for their assistance.
- 4.4 There may be an issue of timing if Action Plans have to go through a formal approval process. AB felt it would not be a problem as he felt Glasgow would be included through the consultation process. The issue should be raised with the working groups. The first action for group chairs will be to select other members for their groups, ideally a mix of environmental health officers, planners and transport officers. The first meeting of SENSG and the working groups will be held at Victoria Quay on week commencing Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to explain how the groups will function and to solicit support from stakeholders. Group chairs to select members in advance of that meeting in order to guide attendance at workshop.
- 4.5 DH reported that the list of “morphing” members of the transport working group was almost complete.

#### 5 How to include all participants while keeping working groups manageable.

- 5.1. It was agreed that notes of meetings could be posted on the news section of the website which would keep the process transparent and would allow anyone to comment. There was also agreement that we should issue user names and passwords for the website to those who are on working groups and to those who have expressed an interest in Action Planning and want to be involved. **Action BM/LS**
- 5.2 LS reported that responses to the consultation on Action Planning guidance were generally positive which some helpful points having been made. Consultation responses will be published on the SG website shortly.

#### 6. Issues relating to noise mapping website.

- 6.1 A number of people had asked for access to the data underlying the noise maps. This raises a number of issues around freedom of information and licensing

of data. It was agreed that all such enquiries and requests should be passed to the SG for decision.

7. AOB

There was no other business. Date of next meeting to be decided following the meeting on 29 October.

**END**