

Scottish Environmental Noise Steering Group (SENSG)

Notes of Forth Meeting – 21 February 2008 Conference Room 11 Victoria Quay Edinburgh

Present:

David Wallace (DW) - Scottish Government and SENSG Chair
Duncan McNab (DM) - Scottish Government
Linda Story (LS) - Scottish Government
Bernadette McKell (BM) – Hamilton & McGregor
Steve Williamson (SW) – Edinburgh City Council Chair and Edinburgh Working Group Chair
Drew Hill (DH) – Transport Scotland – Roads and Transport Chair
Alan Martin (AM) - Transport Scotland – Rail

1. Apologies

Alastair Young (AY) – Transport Scotland – Rail, Martin Valenti (MV) – SEPA,
Alastair Brown (AB) – Glasgow City Council Chair and Glasgow Working Group
Chair, John Stirling (JS) – REHIS, Nick Evans (NE) – Scottish Government Planning,
Jonathan Dennis (JD) - Scottish Government Economists

2. Welcome and Action Points from Previous Meeting:

2.1 DW welcomed everyone. The notes of the previous meeting were agreed and approved for publishing on the noise mapping website. Action points from previous meeting as follows;

- Revised Matrix from DH circulated
- Prioritisation – Now have version 2 of the prioritisation maps, they are much better but work is ongoing to refine.
- Planning review of PAN 56 meeting arranged for 7 March with Scottish Government Planning.
- SEA meeting held with Will Carlin - Scottish Government note previously circulated.

3. Airports

3.1 It was noted that the airports operators representatives although attending the Edinburgh meetings are finding it difficult to attend all meetings. Concern was expressed about the Airport Action plan timetable and content. It was agreed that an early meeting should be arranged with the airport operators to discuss.

Action DW/LS to arrange a meeting with the Airport operators at an early date

4. Report from Transport Working Group (DH)

4.1 The transport group had met on 30 January where they had looked at the information from Hamilton & McGregor and discussed the detailed information from the spreadsheets. BM explained that they were working on refining the prioritisation methodology to include essentially a self limiting buffer. Discussion took place on how this would work. DH had explained that site visits were planned for the following Wednesday. Some discussion took place on what group should cover the

trunk roads and railways within the agglomerations. It was agreed that there was a need for some joined up thinking on this issue and someone from the transport group should attend the next Glasgow group meeting and possibly the next Edinburgh group meeting if possible. For the avoidance of doubt however it was agreed that the starting point was that any recommended action required on trunk roads and railways within agglomerations were the responsibility of the relevant agglomeration group. The taking forward of any action would be for the trunk or rail authority as they had the tools to do so.

Action DH to attend the next Glasgow and Edinburgh working group meetings.

5. Report from Edinburgh Working Group (SW)

5.1 SW reported that Victoria Colling from Edinburgh Airport had attended the last Edinburgh group meeting, and had explained the approach to action planning across the BAA airports. It was felt that the input from the airport had been very useful with the added benefit that it would lead to improved communication links between the local authorities and the airport operator.

5.2 BM had attended the meeting and explained the proposed prioritisation methodology.

5.3 The Edinburgh Group would meet again on 8 February to visit the sites of the potential candidate noise management areas.

5.4 On Industry it had been agreed that a paper would be produced to outline the divisions of responsibility between SEPA and the Local Authorities. It had also been agreed that German approach to Industry should be investigated.

5.5 The group had considered an outline for Action Planning based on the terms of the directive and the had looked at the new SPS.

5.6 SW further explained how the 1977 Edinburgh pollution survey had been helpful in providing a good degree of comfort that the noise maps were indeed relatively accurate.

6. Report from Glasgow Working Group (DMcN)

6.1 The Glasgow group had considered the original SPS and had found difficulties outside the city centre. They had also discussed the need for checking of planning conditions especially if the consent requires the erection of a noise barrier.

6.2 The Glasgow Group had a number of points to clarify with SENSG as follows;

- What constitutes noise sensitive? It was agreed that this is up to the group but to ensure there is no gold plating.
- Why was the Royal Infirmary not included? This depended on its inclusion in the original data set.
- Should we not include new housing? If it is a major development then it has to be mapped.
- Were cuttings taken into account in producing the maps? Yes

6.3 Discussion had taken place on the need for consistency and the possibility of including noise measures in the building completion certificates.

6.4 Local authorities had reported that they receive anumber of complaints about Glasgow Airport and the need to improve relationships with the Airport Authority.

6.5 It had been agreed that for the next meeting everyone would come along with likely Actions.

6.6 DH agreed to attend the next Glasgow meeting on 6 March.

7. Prioritisation Methodology

7.1 BM explained how the reality checks on the first run of prioritisation had helped refine the methodology. She did note that one could go on tweaking the methodology and at some point a decision would have to be made on the final outcome. It was agreed that version 2 was looking very good and if a reality check on version 3 threw up problems then we should use version 2. Further agreed that following sensitivity testing DH should visit Hamilton & McGregors office to look at any further issues.

8. Update from Hamilton & McGregor

8.1 Covered previously during the course of the meeting.

9. AOB

9.1 CION Letter DW reported that a letter that had been received from UK REP on the issue of equivalence of mapping methods.

Action DW to circulate a copy of the letter to all members of the group for information.

9.2 Environmental Protection UK Conference DW reported that the conference Health Effects of Environmental Noise & update on Noise Action Planning for Scotland, on 20 February in Glasgow had gone well and was well attended.

10. Date for next meeting

19 March 2008 at 14:30 pm

END