

Scottish Environmental Noise Steering Group (SENSG)

Notes of Ninth Meeting – 28 January 2009 2:00pm Room 3D 19/20 Victoria Quay Edinburgh

Present:

David Wallace (DW) - Scottish Government and SENSG Chair
Linda Story (LS) - Scottish Government
Bernadette McKell (BM) – Hamilton & McGregor
Victoria Colling (VC) – BAA
Drew Hill (DH) Transport Scotland and Transportation Working Group Chair
Steve Williamson (SW) – Edinburgh City Council and Edinburgh Working Group Chair
Colin McNab (CM)- Hamilton & McGregor

Apologies

Martin Valenti (MV) – SEPA, Nigel Kerr (NK) – Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Working Group Chair. Alan Martin (AM) - Transport Scotland – Rail Duncan McNab (DM) - Scottish Government Nick Evans (NE) – Scottish Government Planning John Stirling (JS) – REHIS Sandra Dandie (SD) – Scottish Government Economist.

1. Agree Minutes of Last Meeting.

1.1 It was agreed that any comments on the minutes of the last meeting should be forwarded to LS.

1.2 LS working with Environmental Protection UK who are to produce information leaflet. Other Action points had been completed or were covered in the agenda items.

2. Outcome of SEA consultation

2.1 LS reported that the comments from SEPA and SNH had been circulated. Historic Scotland had not responded. Comments were generally supportive. All comments would be published in due course.

3. Update on report of summaries of Action Plans and other information to the Commission

3.1 It was reported that all the data required under the January Reporting deadline, Data Flows 6 and 7 had been uploaded to report net and the commission advised. Data Flow 5 had also been submitted on a UK basis. Data Flow 4 was under revision and it was agreed that this would be submitted shortly along with the explanation as to why Prestwick Airport was not the subject of an Action Plan.

3.2 Discussion took place on what might come from the commission before the next reporting stage. The main issues were the report due in 2009 from the commission

and the equivalence issue. VC asked that we take into account the view from the airports that the main issue for them is to provide a level playing field.

3.3 DW noted that although our task in terms of submitting information to the commission is effectively complete for the moment it is important to maintain the momentum in delivering the Action Plans.

Action: BM to ensure that the revised DF 4 be forwarded as soon as possible.

4. :Review of PAN56.

4.1 DW explained that he had seen a draft note to the Minister which was supportive of the need for review. BM explained that she might want to look at the issue differently if it has to be more general. DW suggested that she carry on but be prepared for the final version to change.

Action: BM to provide a draft report for the end of February.

5. Draft Guidance

5.1 DW noted that the guidance only focuses on moving from Candidate Noise Management Areas to Noise Management Areas. The second stage which would be supplementary guidance would include possible mitigation measures and cost benefit analysis. The TRL research would feed into this.

5.2 There had been a suggestion that the stages highlighted in the draft guidance should have titles with the name in brackets.

Action ALL comments to be sent to LS by 6 February for a 6 week consultation starting on 16 February.

5.3 VC reported that a consultation on insulation schemes would take place this year. BAA Scotland will be commissioning a report to look at alternative schemes across the world.

5.4 It was noted that the last page on the Technical Guidance Appendix 3 would include look up tables. This had come from the Glasgow group who wanted to know what the effects of changes to some of the model variables might be for example what happens when the % of heavies changes, and what a significant change would involve.

Action: BM and SD to start work on the supplementary Guidance with BM concentrating on mitigation and SD on Cost benefit analysis. A draft Document to be available by early summer.

6. Quiet Areas.

6.1 LS gave a brief description of the SNH and Landmark data sets that were used to determine candidate quiet areas. These had been used to ensure consistency of approach across the agglomerations. It was agreed that the technical guidance on quiet areas has to explain why we have adopted this approach.

6.2 It was agreed that a brainstorming session with the Glasgow and Edinburgh Groups present should be arranged for 25 February in Glasgow. It was also stressed that it would be important for Planners to attend.

**Action LS to arrange meeting for 25 February in Glasgow
BM to draft guidance advice on moving from Candidate Quiet Area to Quiet Area, following the meeting.**

7. Reports from working groups

7.1 Glasgow CM reported that the Glasgow group had discussed the technical guidance and are happy with it. The group did want to report to SENSG that they do have reservations about the use of SMA in place of HRA for road surfacing as there are issues with durability. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 March. VC asked if the group could ensure that she is on the circulation list for the Glasgow Group.

Action DM to check that VC is on the circulation list for the Glasgow Group.

7.2 Edinburgh SW reported that the last Edinburgh meeting had been conceived as a brainstorming session on the technical guidance and noted that the comments made had been taken on board. Dates had been set for a series of subsequent meetings.

7.3 Transportation DH reported that comments had been given on the technical guidance. Letters had been sent out to contacts provided in Local Authorities. Transport Scotland are considering further talks with SCOTS. The next meeting with the working group is on 26 February. DW felt that it would be important to have the Local Authority reps at that meeting, and to let him know if there were any problems with attendance.

8. Airports

8.1 VC reported that once she receives the revised data the Action Plans will be put on the websites. She asked if there were any plans to Launch the final Action Plans. The airports were planning to let their stakeholders know.

9. Process post submission of summaries of Action Plans to the Commission.

9.1 Discussion took place on how to keep the momentum going on Action Planning now that the commission deadlines had been met. It was agreed that this was important and the Actions would have to be identified, monitored and reported on. It was agreed that SENSG and the working groups need to continue as the process requires continuity. SENSG was thought to be a useful forum where groups could bring issues to be talked through before coming to decisions. In addition issues coming from Brussels will need to be discussed. VC suggested that someone from SENSG could attend the Airports Scottish Noise Strategy Group. It was agreed that DW or LS would attend.

Action VC to advise DW and LS of the date of the next Airport Noise Strategy Group meeting.

10. Research TRL

10.1 LS reported that TRL had been successful in securing a 12 week research contract to look a quiet road surfaces.

11 AOB

11.1 The issue of people living with high noise levels but not in noise management areas was discussed.

Action DW/LS/DH to consider approach.

11.2 Date for next meeting – 31 March 2009 11:00 am Victoria Quay. Lunch would be provided.

END