



EAST AREA ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the (first)ERAUC MEETING held on 9th JUNE, 2022
This meeting was convened via MS Teams – 43 joined the meeting remotely.

Julie Greig (Chair)	JG	SGN
Colin Heggie (Co-Chair)	CH	Perth & Kinross Council
Jason Halliday	JHa	OSRWC
Wendy Ross	WR	Traffic Scotland/amey
Alan Heatley	AH	Midlothian Council
Iain Ross	IR	Scottish Road Works Commissioner
Carol-Ann Dodd	CAD	Midlothian Council
Chris Murray	CM	Sky
Duncan MacLennan	DMcL	Openreach
Katrina Hardy	KH	INEOS
Nichola Millar	NM	SGN
Lindsay Henderson	LH	OSRWC
Ruth Scott	RS	Neos Networks
Karyn Davidson	KD	Vodafone
Jim Forbes	JF	Cityfibre
Andrew Matheson	AM	Virgin Media
Stefeni Cownley	SC	ESPUG
Fiona McInnes	FMcI	Scottish Water
Craig McQueen	CMcQ	Scottish Water
Caroline Auld	CA	Network Rail
Kat Quane	KQ	Transport Scotland
Eleni Gigourtaki	EG	East Lothian Council
David Ross	DR	BEARScotland
David Thomson	DT	SPEN
David Hearty	DH	MBNL-EE/3
Ian Jones	IJ	Fife Council
Alistair Wales	AW	Verizon
Peter Henley	PH	Verizon
Thomas Flaherty	TF	City of Edinburgh Council
Ewan Hogg	EH	Falkirk Council
Sharon Burns	SB	Gofibre
Aimee Long	AL	Fulcrum
Barry Hall	BH	gtc-uk
Rob James	RJ	Network Rail
Sonia Shaw	SS	Fulcrum
Kenneth Brown	KB	West Lothian Council
Carine Russell	CR	gtc-uk
Karen Jones	KJ	muagroup
Alan Hutchison	AH	Tay Road Bridge
Lee Windsor	LW	Fulcrum
Lee Bromhall	LB	Royal Mail
Luke Dexter	LD	Transport Scotland
In attendance:		
Brian Cooper	BC	Secretarial Support

Apologies: John Balmer(hfcomms), Stuart Harding(City of Edinburgh Council), Adrian Henzler(Openreach), Henry Meechan(axione), Ian Dalrymple(Openreach),Stuart Monk(muagroup), Carole McDonald(Cityfibre), Tanya Fraser(INEOS)

1. Welcome, attendance and apologies

Julie Greig(JG) as incoming Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new East area Roads Authorities and Utilities Committee(ERAUC) - Attendance and apologies as recorded above - Introductions were intimated “around the screen” - Colin Heggie, Perth & Kinross Council is the Roads Co-Chair; Ian Jones, Fife Council is the Co-chair of the Coring Working Group;

Iain Ross, SRWR Manager - oSRWC, talked through a demonstration of the Works Promoter App, emphasising the imminent changes in the Register for the Transport (Scotland), Act and highlighting the mandatory Stop/Start 2-hour deadline and pointing out RQPs are in PDF as only the oSRWC can add or delete Plans, with “View only” access by owning organisations

2. Minutes of previous meetings

(a)(i) The draft Minute of the former South East RAUC Meeting circulated by the Secretary prior to the meeting was agreed as a true record, without any corrections or additions.
(b)(ii) The draft minute of the former Tayforth RAUC Meeting was noted.

Action Tracking(i) - 2(b): Use of 30/14 Material in footway reinstatements – being widely used by SGN and S/W via local agreements – also being included in the reviewed SROR – agreed this action can be removed

(ii) – 10(b): Windfarm in West Lothian, s109 – this matter has now been passed to SCOTS, via the RAUCS Committee – action can be removed

3. Written reports from Local Co-ordination meetings/clusters

The Chair thanked the two clusters that had submitted written reports in advance of the meeting: from Clackmannanshire/Falkirk and Stirling, and the East Lothian/Midlothian and Scottish Borders clusters.

For clarification, JF added written reports are very useful to explain what is happening in areas locally, and to raise issues from the co-ordination meetings at Area level. The report from EG in East Lothian was cited as a good example of the style and content of reporting to Area RAUCs.

Verbal reports/updates as follows:

Edinburgh continuing to hold meetings fortnightly - TF will produce a written report for next ERAUC

P&K Council/Cluster raised issue with Emergency Works being left open too long

SUs issues with West Lothian sending out too many invoices - all other Councils batch-up – KB from West Lothian asked about outstanding defects and road closures being able to be recorded in the SRWR - IR suggested issuing a change request.

4. (a) RAUCS Meeting on 1st March, 2022 – Update/Matters Arising

The Chair provided background information in relation to the following matters –

- National Road Worker Abuse Campaign – presentation by Jonny Moran, Transport Scotland – JG referred to proposal for new signs asking for the public’s consideration, in addition to information boards
- The Commissioner had given a presentation on Noticing of Works that require Traffic Restrictions (ppt slides made available)
- Advice Note 8 – Temporary Traffic Signals was approved and would be published on the website
- The Coordination Code needs to be revised - the WG will be convened – as this is a Ministerial Code an Advice note may be needed meantime
- The DfT has appointed a Consultant to review of the Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice

- The Commissioner has updated the guidance on Best Practice under section 17(4)(b) of the TSA – essentially all CoPs, Advice Notes and Guidance published on the Commissioner’s website are Best Practice, with failure to comply being considered a failure by any organisation to meet their duties as required under Sections 118 and 119 of the NRSWA
- Research Project on the Service life of Reinstatements – confirmation awaited from SRRB that the Consultant has been appointed
- SROR Review - the WG intention is that a draft will be submitted to RAUCS after the summer
- JF confirmed there had been a discussion on the use of 30/14 material and also on the Openreach Trial of cold-lay material in footways/paths which was being well received in Perth & Kinross

5. Government and SRWC Report & Performance and Management:

(a) Scottish Government Report – KQ referred to her written updates included in the OneDrive Folder, drawing attention to:

Roadworks Reform – mid-way point reached; In 2022/23 the following measures will be brought forward – RQPs mandatory (soft launch currently); Legal Requirement for RAs to have Qualified Operatives/Supervisors from 01/04/23; Move to 2hrs for start/stops – live from 01/04/23; 6 year Guarantee Period from 01/10 23.

Sanctions/oil/bitumen supplies – no specific intervention at this time.

Covid-19 Impact – effectively recovered to pre-Covid patterns of work with any Covid-specific restrictions now eased.

Reminder that the NUAR project is for England and Wales only as Scotland has the VAULT

(b)Performance Dashboard – LH advised that Jason Halliday(formerly West Lothian Council) had joined the SRWC staff as Policy and Quality Manager. Jason’s immediate focus is driving forward RQPs which are due to be implemented from 31st March 2023. The SRWC 202/22 Q4 Dashboard had been made available with other papers on the OneDrive Folder prior to the meeting.

Taking into account the RAUCS Constitutional changes and revised meetings calendar the Commissioner has decided to introduce a more specific narrative of operational activity across all sectors – this will focus discussion on organisations operating at the alternate ends of a compliant performance.

2021/22 Performance Reviews were issued on the 26th May and the rating system adopted is either Well-managed, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory:

RAs: 11 well-managed, 16 Satisfactory and 7 Unsatisfactory;

SUs: Cause for concern with over 51% (16No) of all operating organisations delivering an Unsatisfactory performance, although 7 of those organisations have delivered significant improvements. Four organisations have been rated Well-managed, and 11 Satisfactory;

Improvement Plans: four organisations are currently on plans – an additional three different organisations are on monthly monitoring.

Work is well underway on the Service Life of Reinstatements Research Project with over 250 potential sites identified. Individuals who volunteered to be part of the assessment team can expect to be contacted soon.

The SROR working group is meeting fortnightly to maintain progress. A parallel group is being established to develop new Appendix A9 Trial procedures to facilitate innovation.

Management and Operation of the SRWR: IR reported that 67 out of the 93 organisations had paid the Prescribed Fees & Amounts for 2022/23.

The User Satisfaction Survey is now complete – 245 responses were received out of a pool of around 2000 users – the response overall is positive.

To allow the Commissioner to start tracking outstanding reinstatement defects:

.....As from 1/04/22 the Commissioner expects that the requirement

- To record a D/3 or DA3 pass following every defect remediation
- To record a D/2 or DA2 within 6 months of the prompted Due Date, and
- To carry out remedial repair within 6 months of reporting,

will be followed correctly in all cases by RAs and SUs.

A series of changes will be made to the SRWR to enforce and report on these requirements. These changes will be delivered across several tranches detailed in a new item available on the SRWR Aurora News Portal. In summary:

- Tranche 1 around end of Q1 – ability to clear Cat A without remedial phase
- Tranche 2 around end of Q2 – clear down of old prompts
- Tranche 3 around end of Q3 – changes to prevent removal of prompts going forward

Three new organisations have joined the Register: Broadway Ptnrs Ltd; Persimmon Homes Ltd., and Moray Offshore Windfarm(West).

6. Working Group Reports:

National Coring: CMcQ reported regular meetings of the WG were being held. Ian Jones is Lead for RA sub-group. Critical Milestone when actual coring should be starting reached soon. Four Coring Contractors are in place. Who is replacing Jason Halliday as the(former) South East Lead? JG encouraged discussion and agreement and cooperation at all stages. FMCI reminded everyone that checking Appendix A is essential. All sites have to be agreed as well.

7. Health and Safety

Attention was drawn to the Safety Alerts in the OneDrive folder. The Chair commented on this as good practice.

The Secretary asked all organisations to check the List of Plant Protection Systems and the separate Emergency Contact Details Spreadsheet for accuracy and inform him of any amendments or omissions or additions.

Under this Item JF advised everyone to be vigilant regarding the mis-use of signs and barriers by others, including information boards. JG said SGN barriers had been found being used for building works.

8. Any Other Competent Business:

- (a) Colin Heggie, Perth & Kinross Council is to be the Roads Co-Chair
- (b) JF advised that Area meeting dates in 2023 may change to help reporting to RAUCS Meeting dates
- (c) The date for Road Expo at the SEC Glasgow on 29/30 November, 2022 was noted
- (d) Discussion re possibility of in-person meetings resuming – mixed comments re hybrid meetings – suggestion of one meeting in person, others remotely
- (e) JG thanked Katrina Hardy for her attendance and input to Area Meetings and wished her well in retirement

9. The date of next meeting was noted as Thursday, 6th October, 2022

BC – June, 2022;