

SOUTH WEST AREA ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting

Date: - 22nd May 2019

Kirkintilloch Town Hall

**Union Street,
Kirkintilloch,
G66 1DH**

Present:

Duncan Carrick (Chair)

Graeme Alison	G.A.
Caroline Auld	C.A.
Neil Brannock	N.B.
Norman Carnegy	N.C.
David Carter	D.Ca.
Martin Cochrane	M.C.
Gerry Cullen	J.C.
Karyn Davidson	K.D.
Jane Dunlop	J.D.
Stephen Fisher	S.F.
David Fleming	D.F.
Jim Forbes	J.F.
Clare Gordon	C.G.
Julie Greig	J.G.
Mike Grunwell	M.G.
Lisa Haston	L.H.
David Hearty	D.H.
Paul Knoud	P.K.
Iain Lynch	I.L.
Thomas McAuley	T.McA.
John McCulloch	J.McC.
Andrew Matheson	A.M.
Graham Milne	G.M.
Courtney Mitchell	C.Mit.
David Murdoch	D.M.
Chris Murray	C.M.
Valerie Park	V.P.
Stephen Scanlon	S.S.
Ruth Scott	R.S.
John Scougall	J.S.
David Shaw	D.Sh.
Tony Thom	T.T.

D.C.

East Dunbartonshire Council

Dumfries and Galloway Council
East Dunbartonshire Council
A6 Autolink
E.S.P.
South Lanarkshire Council
Amey / M8DBFO
Transport Scotland
Vodafone
O.S.R.W.C.
Century Link
PAG T.S. Agent M74
CityFibre
Scotland TranServ
SGN
Dumfries and Galloway Council
SPEN
MBNL – EE / 3
GTC
North Ayrshire Council
North Ayrshire Council
Balfour Beatty M77 DBFO
Virgin Media
O.S.R.W.C.
Scottish Water
Network Rail
Sky
South Lanarkshire Council
Openreach
SSE (Telecom)
North Lanarkshire Council
Ayrshire Roads Alliance
North Lanarkshire Council

In Attendance: -

George Borthwick G.B. Secretary to SW Area RAUC

Apologies:

John Ashcroft	J.A.	North Lanarkshire Council
George Coles	G.C.	North Ayrshire Council
Owen Harte	O.H.	Virgin Mediaa
Jock Laidlaw	J.L.	Autolink M6
Lyne Lyle	L.L.	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Fiona McInnes	F.McI.	Scottish Water
Alex Rae	A.R.	SGN
Bill Sutherland	B.S.	Virgin Media
Robert Young	R.Y.	Digital Scotland (Scottish Government)

1. Welcome, Attendance and Apologies

Duncan Carrick welcomed all to the May 2019 meeting of the SW Area RAUC.

Apologies were recorded as listed above.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 27th February 2019

a. Accuracy

The minutes of the last meeting of the SW Area RAUC held on 27th February 2019 at the Kirkintilloch Town Hall, Union Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1DH were approved as read.

3. Local RAUC Reports

a. Ayrshires Local RAUC

There were no issues remitted to this meeting.

b. East Dunbartonshire & North Lanarkshire RAUC

There were no issues remitted to this meeting.

c. South Lanarkshire Local RAUC

There were no issues remitted to this meeting.

d. Dumfries & Galloway Local RAUC

Bagging Traffic Signal Heads when Out of Operation

This matter was raised as a result of some Contractors bagging the signals and others just switching them off. There was no common requirement across the signing and guarding

codes and advice notes and the view was that the Red Book needs to be updated to provide clearer instruction so that in all areas and for all sites there is a standard specification.

The Committee agreed that the matter should be remitted to RAUC(S) for consideration at the June meeting. **Action - D.C.**

Use of Manual Multi Way Traffic Control

This matter was raised as there was no clear instructions on the use of manual multi way traffic control on sites and it was not covered in the codes and advice notes. Some R.As appear to be allowing it to be used while others were not. On some sites the pragmatic view was that this method of control was perfectly satisfactory.

In order that a standard approach could be set the Committee agreed that the item should be remitted for consideration to the RAUC(S) meeting in June. **Action - D.C.**

Works under Section 109 Permits

A section of road had been affected by 3 closures with the last one being for works under a Section 109 Permit.

Where the works were for a Scottish Water connection, they require up to 10 days from the date the excavation is made until the connection is made. This allows for their inspection to assess the site and complete the works. This is generally too long especially if a closure is involved and the arrangements between the permit holder and Scottish Water need to be revised. If a water test is required, the time is extended up to 15 days.

Scottish Water is aware of the concerns of the R.As and are considering what could be done to improve the arrangement. Scottish Water will normally complete the works within the stated time unless the initial inspection excavation is unsatisfactory and further work on the excavation is required.

The Committee will await the response from Scottish Water. **Action – C.M.**

4. Matters Arising from RAUC(S) Meeting held on 6th March 2019

The previously circulated Minutes of the RAUC(S) meeting held on 6th March 2019 were taken as read with the following summary: -

- The sample inspection fees for this year will be remain at £36.00 and for the next 5 years they will be index linked based on the £36.00.
- The Draft SROH was published for consultation. This has now closed and the responses are being reviewed. The S.R.O.H will be considered in the development of a new SROR for Scotland.
- The draft Inspections Code was issued for consultation. The responses are being reviewed and a second version will be compiled. The Group are reviewing RAUC(S) Advice Note No. 15 - Recording Inspection Results and Responding to Inspections on the Scottish Road Works Register which also requires to be updated.
- The Coordination Working Group met to review the Coordination Code. They have realised that much of their work may be linked to the contents of the Transport Bill which

- is currently being drafted. The Group intend to meet with a member of the Bill Team to discuss the way forward. When the draft Code is ready it will be issued for consultation.
- The Roads Co-Chair is involved in discussions to find funding to provide a more robust test for Coal Tar in the road construction.
 - The HAUC UK Convention was held on 15th May 2019 and had been well attended. It will be held at the same venue on 14th May next year. Papers to the meeting included: -
 - The plan is to roll out the Street Manager management system in November this year for south of the border.
 - The Electric Charging of vehicles was considered as there are increasing applications for Charging Points both for public and private use. Some of the issues raised included the legal aspects of the chargers on roads and the effect on the grid.
 - It was noted that the Fees and Amounts Invoices would be late in being issued and would now be sent out on 3rd May with only 30 days to make payment. The issue of invoices would revert to 1st April next year with 60 days to pay.
 - The Steering Group are working with Symology on the development of Aurora.
 - The Inspections App had been released and initial access to the App is via the Support Desk.
 - The Commissioner Indicator Reports can be downloaded from the Register.
 - The usual reminder was issued to all who have poor performance (red on the report schedule) to send their comments to the O.S.R.W.C.
 - The Commissioner's Annual Report has been published and is available on the Web Site.
 - The Transport Bill is at Stage 2 of the process and Legislation is likely to be introduced in early summer 2020.
 - The responses to the Narrow Trenching Consultation were being reviewed.
 - The results of the National Gazetteer Conventions review will be submitted to RAUC(S) in June.

5. National & Local Coring Update

a. National Coring Update

An update on the Coring Programme was recorded as follows: -

- The Areas have reached Milestone point No. 5. So all are on programme.
 - The Contract for the Programme will be awarded to Stangers subject to the S.U.s being satisfied with the Accreditation details.
- Post Meeting Update - A final check of Stangers qualifications showed that they did not hold UKAS accreditation for BS EN 12697-29 for the Measurement of Layer Thickness as required by Appendix H of RAUC(S) Advice Note 3. Therefore, Stangers could not be appointed as Coring Contractor for the South West RAUC area and the Contract was subsequently awarded to Socotec UK who met all the UKAS accreditation requirements of Advice Note 3.**
- The lists of proposed sample sites have been issued to the various S.U.s and their responses are awaited with the intention of completing Milestone 7 by the end of June with the completion of the Appendix A forms. **Action - All**

b. Local / Internal Coring Programmes

No issues were remitted to this meeting.

6. SRWC Report & Performance

a. SRWC Report

The report summarised the items as follow: -

- All should note that the previously circulated Fibre Toolkit is for use in England and is not approved for works in Scotland. There is no Scottified version.
- Kat Quane has left South Lanarkshire and has now joined Transport Scotland.
- Graham Milne joined the Commissioner's Office in April and is dealing with the statistical data.
- The email addresses have changed to srwc.gov.scot and although the old addresses will continue to work for a time it was recommended that all change over as soon as possible.
- 2 R.As had received Stage 1 Letters advising them that they would receive a penalty for not providing a response to a request for information. The process is currently in Stage 2 which is the response from the R.As. Stage 3 is the issue of the Penalty if that is the decision of the Commissioner based on his review of the Stage 2 responses.
- The Question Bank for Operator Qualification assessment is delayed and it is likely to be the end of the year before it is approved.
- There has been a good response to the payments of the Fees and Amounts Invoices although there are still some Organisations who have not paid. If there is concern that a payment has not been made contact should be made to I.R. who can check the receipts.
- Gamma has sold its assets in Scotland and is no longer a S.U.

Action All

b. S.R.W.C. Indicators and Statistics

The previously circulated Report was taken as read with the following comments: -

- All Organisations which are on Improvement Plans arising from last year's Performance Review should ensure that they are providing the required feedback to the Commissioner's Office. The next date for submission is in June.
- Performance overall since the introduction of the Reports has improved but there is still room for improvement.
- If there are any queries about the Reports they should be sent to G.M.

c. Improvement Notice Action Tracking

No Improvement Plans were issued in the SW Area in the last Quarter.

7. Safety

a. Safety Concerns/Issues

The Committee noted the Safety Bulletin which had been circulated by SGN about the needle left behind the excavator seat which would have injured the driver if he had sat down in the seat without checking. It was a message to all to check their work environment before entering it.

b. Traffic Management Issues

No issues recorded.

8. Information on Strategic Programmes of Works

a. R.A Projects

ARAs annual programme of works has been recorded on the Register.

The other R.As indicated that they would be progressing their programmes in the same way.

C.G. indicated that a scheme was due to commence on the A77 Maybole Bypass and work on the A737 Dalry Bypass is due for completion by the end of May.

b. S.U. Projects

Check about the Scottish Water Project – Burncrooks I am awaiting the information.

c. Superfast Broadband Rollout

DSBB Programme is still on planned Programme Targets and have achieved nearly 3850 LIVE CABS and over 625 LIVE fibre PONS across all the 27 Councils in the Rest of Scotland Area.

Deployment is now mainly through Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) and Exchange Only Line (FTTC EO) solution. FTTP deployment involves less civil engineering works and there should be a reduced impact on Roads Authorities and other utilities. There will probably be poling and moleplough works in rural areas.

The Extended Build Programme is now running until December 2019 and will be predominantly FTTP deployment.

Beyond that there is a further deployment planned, termed “Reaching for 100”, to cover the remaining premises that will be without access to Superfast Broadband. This contract is currently going through a complex procurement process, with award expected sometime this year.

9. Proposed Changes to Road Designations

No issues raised under this Item.

10. Management and Operation of the SRWR

A verbal report was provided as follows: -

- The Inspections App has now gone live and the initial access is available via the Support Desk.

- The guidance on the Requirements to Receiving Notifications on the SRWR has been published on the Web Site under Further Guidance.

11. Gazetteer Report

The following update was provided: -

- A forum meeting was held in Dundee to review the proposed changes to the Gazetteer conventions and operation of the Gazetteer.
- Any comments or queries should be sent to I.R. or Paul Weedon.

12. Systems Assurance Team

The previously circulated Report was taken as read.

- SAT is working with Symology on the Aurora Development and in the meantime reviewing the Change Requests has been put on hold.
- One S.U. Representative is required for the Team. With the imminent auditing of Aurora prior to the roll out it is essential that a full team is available.

13. Community Apparatus VAULT

No issues raised.

14. AOCB

a. List of Plant Protection Systems

The Secretary indicated that this Item is a standard Item on the Agenda and would give all the opportunity to update their details in order that the schedule was up to date on the Web Site.

b. Emergency Contact Details

The Secretary indicated that this Item is a standard Item on the Agenda and would give all the opportunity to update their details in order that the schedule was up to date on the Web Site.

15. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

SW Area RAUC Next Meeting: - Wednesday 28th August 2019

Future Meetings: -

November Meeting

Wednesday 27th November 2019

The Venue for these Meetings will be: - Kirkintilloch Town Hall

**Union Street,
Kirkintilloch,
G66 1DH**

The meeting closed at 11.55