



## SOUTH WEST AREA ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting

**Date: - 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

### Meeting held on MS TEAMS

#### **Present:**

Julie Greig (Meeting Chair)		J.G.	SGN
David Allen	D.A.		Amey (SW Trunk Road Operator)
Caroline Auld	C.A.		Network Rail
Kelly Bibby	K.B.		ABS Streetworks for Last Mile
Clare Callaghan	C.C.		Scottish Water
Katie Campbell	K.C.		North Ayrshire Council
Jaoa Carmo	J.C.		SPEN
David Carter	D.Ca.		South Lanarkshire Council
Martin Cochrane	M.C.		Amey / SRP / M8DBFO
Matthew Crossan	M.C.		Dumfries and Galloway Council
Ian Dalrymple	I.D.		SGN
David Fleming	D.F.		PAG T.S. Agent M74
Jim Forbes	J.F.		CityFibre
Claire Gardiner	C.G.		Amey
Mike Grunwell	M.G.		Dumfries and Galloway Council
Barry Hall	B.H.		GTC-UK
Owen Harte	O.H.		Virgin Media
David Hearty	D.H.		MBNL-EE/3
Lindsay Henderson	L.H.		O.S.R.W.C.
Rob James	R.J.		Network Rail
Stephen Kitt	S.K.		BEAR Scotland (S.E.)
Jock Laidlaw	J.L.		Autolink M6
John Lennard	J.L.		Lumen
Lynne Lyle	L.L.		Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Carole McDonald	C.McD.		CityFibre
Craig McQueen	C.McQ.		Scottish Water
John McCulloch	J.McC.		Balfour Beatty M77 DBFO
Graham Milne	G.M.		oS.R.W.C.
Chris Murray	C.M.		Sky (Lost Signal during Meeting)
Valerie Park	V.P.		South Lanarkshire Council
David Paton	D.P.		BEAR Scotland (M80 DBFO)
Kat Quane	K.Q.		Transport Scotland
Alex Rae	A.R.		SGN
Graeme Robin	G.R.		North Ayrshire Council
Stephen Scanlon	S.S.		Openreach
Ruth Scott	R.S.		SSE (Telecom)
David Shaw	D.Sh.		Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Lewis Stacey	L.S.		ABS Streetworks for Last Mile
Craig Stewart	C.S.		East Dunbartonshire Council
Elaine Stewart	E.S.		SPEN
Tony Thom	T.T.		North Lanarkshire Council

**In Attendance: -**

George Borthwick	G.B.	Secretary to SW Area RAUC
Paul Tapley	P.T.	Virgin Media

**Apologies:**

John Ashcroft	J.A.	North Lanarkshire Council
Neil Brannock	N.B.	Autolink M6
Duncan Carrick	D.C.	East Dunbartonshire Council
Karyn Davidson	K.D.	Vodafone
Kevin Hamilton	K.H.	Scottish Road Works Commissioner
Fiona McInnes	F.McI.	Scottish Water
John Scougall	J.S.	North Lanarkshire Council

**1. Welcome, Attendance and Apologies**

Julie Greig welcomed all to the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 meeting of the SW Area RAUC.

Apologies were recorded as listed above.

**1a. Virgin Media - Recycled Aggregates (Paul Tapley – Virgin Media)**

J.G. welcomed Paul and introduced him to the meeting.

Paul apologised to the members who had already heard the presentation at the previous Area meetings.

The use of Recycled Materials was included in the SROR but the problem has been sourcing them in an environmentally efficient way e.g. reasonable travel distances.

On the current graph there will by 2030 be a need for the equivalent of two Earths to produce the required materials.

- The construction industry only makes up 6% of Scotland's GDP, but it is the largest consumer of natural resources by sector (>50%)
- Approximately 29 million tonnes of aggregates are used annually in Scotland as raw construction materials. That's 5.5 tonnes per head of capita each year
- Only 20% of Scottish aggregate demand is met from recycled or secondary products compared with a UK rate of 28%
- To move towards more sustainable methods and reduce the consumption of primary aggregates from quarries could reduce the industry's carbon footprint by 59%

The SROR requires materials used in the reinstatements to conform to the specifications contained therein.

Virgin Media intend to use recycled materials in the layers below the blacktop.

The 2019 Act was introduced to accelerate environmentally friendly operation and increase the use of recycling.

A plant at Livingston has been constructed to receive excavated materials, separate them, crush them as necessary, screen them and store the graded material ready for use in reinstatements.

Demolition materials are also received and included in the process.

The use of the recycled materials reduces the use of fossil fuels and water (the water used by the plant is recycled)

There is also a plant under development in Glasgow which will provide the same service and be ready to deliver recycled materials by mid-summer.

Up to 95% of the water used in the process is recycled leaving a sludge material at the end of the process In conjunction with Stirling University the possibility of producing bricks using the sludge is being investigated.

Under the WRAP initiative, Certificates are awarded to recycled aggregates that are produced in accordance with protocols and specifications.

A site in Glasgow was recently reinstated using the recycled aggregates to demonstrate its ability to meet standards and specifications. Test results including Clegg were satisfactory.

The indications are that Type 1 costs about £10.00 per tonne which compares reasonably with the recycled material at about £12 / £13 per tonne. Travel distance needs to be factored into the final calculation.

A demonstration site in Arbroath will be provided soon.

Virgin Media is looking for national acceptance of the recycled products for the reinstatements. The sites using recycled materials would be recorded on the Register for monitoring purposes.

Where recycled materials are available the intention would be to use them. At present the recycled material is more expensive but as it becomes more available commercial competition will make it more economic.

P.T. thanked all for their time and indicated that he would circulate the slides.

A.R. suggested that R.As need to sign up to the increasing use of recycled materials and the Working Group needs to progress the development and specifying of the use of recycled materials.

There had been an earlier meeting with the Commissioner and he had suggested that this presentation be provided to the Area Meetings.

As long as the materials meet the specification as required by the SROR it should be used in the reinstatements.

SGN is already using the recycled materials where it is conveniently available.

D.A. indicated that he would raise the profile of these materials within Amey.

J.G. thanked P.T. for his presentation.

## **2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

### **a. Accuracy**

The minutes of the last meeting of the SW Area RAUC held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 on MS TEAMS were agreed as read.

b. Action Tracking

See the Action Tracking Summary paper.

**3. National Coring Programme**

The meeting received the following update from C.McQ.: -

- The Working group is continuing to meet monthly.
- The Group are reviewing the existing Advice Note No.3.
- He thanked the few who had sent in comments as part of the Consultation. Although few, they contained useful suggestions.
- The Review of the Constitution may create issues in relation to the proposed 4 Areas in place of the existing 5. Because of the different time scales the Coring programme is going ahead based on the 5 existing Areas.
- D.S. reported that East Dunbartonshire will be the Lead Authority and once C.S. has spoken to D.C. the name of the contact will be circulated.

**4. Matters Arising from RAUC(S) Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

The previously circulated Minutes of the RAUC(S) meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 were taken as read.

**a. RAUC(S) W.G. Recruitment**

The Recruitment Schedule was taken as read with the following comments: -

- Julian Green (A&B) will be asked to represent the SW Area on the SROR Working Group.
- David Carter will join the Gazetteer Working Group.
- The vacancy on the SRWR Steering Group will be discussed by the R.A. Representatives. **Action – R.As**
- M.G. will try to find Representatives from Dumfries and Galloway. **Action – M.G.**

The revision to 4 Areas will reduce the number of Representatives required for the Working Groups.

**b. Scottish Government Update**

K.Q. updated the Committee as follows: -

- There have been no recent updates to the Covid Guidance except to stress the need for Hygiene.
- The direction is to Stay Home (home work if you can) – Stay Local – Stay Safe.
- In canteens in Level 2 and 3 the spacing is 2 metres and for level 1 it is 1 metre spacing.
- Anti-Vaccination stickers have been reported on Vaccination Station direction signage. If this is discovered on signs (including temporary road works signs) they should be reported to 101 and left in place until the Police have checked the site.

The Heating Scotland Bill is awaiting Royal Assent. This will mean that Heat Network Providers will become Utilities in due course.

Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

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

- The Schedule indicating the introduction of Sections of the Act which was issued in a previous meeting cycle has been updated with dates added where possible. If there are any queries, they should be passed to K.Q.

Digital Scotland – Superfast broadband

The updates to the Area / Local Meetings on progress on the R100 Contracts will be provided by Openreach.

Digital Scotland are interviewing for staff to manage the Area Contracts.

In the meantime, K.C. will provide a mailbox service to the pass information from the Community to Digital Scotland.

Red Book Review – The Red Book is being reviewed and K.C. asked the R.As with Island Communities to pass her any issues on Traffic Management (signing and TTROs) which are only relevant to the Island.

c. Cop 26 and the Euro Championships

- There were no updates available relating to plans for the Euros and COP 26.
- The affected R.As and the S.U.s all want updates as soon as possible for planning and programming purposes.
- In the relevant R.A. areas there may be a need for embargoes on the arterial / SIDR Routes.
- South Ayrshire consider that there will be a need for an Embargo on the route from the Prestwick Airport to the Trunk Road.

## **5. SRWC Report & Performance**

### **a) SRWC Indicators and Statistics Reports**

G.M. provided a verbal report as follows: -

- The GDPR – The operation of RAUC(S) under this Legislation is being checked. Already the Secretary has been asked to send out emails with the addresses hidden and he has been asked not to pass on contact information. He will in future pass the request to the relevant person to respond direct to the enquiry.
- The Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS) – meetings have been held with MACS to discuss problems which arise due to Roadworks. 3 issues which were raised as follows: -

T.M. signs placed on the footway – all should ensure that there is a clear 1.5 metre corridor passed them. The absolute minimum width must not be less than 1 metres. Remember the Double Buggy users.

When the works are completed the T.M. should be removed as soon as possible. Even stacking them neatly can give rise to problems e.g. vandalism.

Temporary Kerb Ramps should be of the correct incline and should be securely fixed down to the existing surface. Manoeuvring space must be considered top and bottom of the Ramps.

Meetings are ongoing.

- All R.As are asked to take part in the Coring Programme in order that a full picture of the Reinstatement Quality in Scotland can be recorded.

All coring must be carried out in accordance with Advice Note 3 to meet the needs of good practice.

- The question of who was responsible for the posting of the Route for a TTRO was raised. The Commissioner indicated that the TTRO was the responsibility of the R.As and they should therefore, post the diversions.

#### Quarter 4 Performance Dashboard

G.M. provided a verbal report as follows: -

- The SRWC dashboard for 2020 / 21 Q4 had been circulated and was taken as read with the following comments: -
  - In most cases work levels have returned to the pre Covid levels and the compliance levels are satisfactory.
  - Some R.As work levels are still low and they will be contacted to discuss the situation.
  - All Organisations should email the Commissioner's Office with their plans to deal with poor performance in any of the Report categories.
  - Any queries should be passed to G.M. via enquiries@roadworks.scot
- 2020/21 Performance Reviews – there have been a number of responses to the previously issued proposals for the Performance Reviews and they have been examined. Following consideration the Review will proceed based on the aggregated Q3/Q4 levels of compliance for Noticing Failures and Unplanned Works and where appropriate comment will be made on an individual Organisation's adherence to the directions issued at the onset of the pandemic.
- The Commissioner has published 'Monitoring and Compliance Bulletin No. 4 on the web site to clarify recent changes to the Performance Targets for 2021-22.
- Organisations currently under review have submitted their Q4 2020/21 plans. Organisations continue to be reviewed quarterly with the next submission date being 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021. There is 1 RA and 3 Undertakers on improvement Plans.
- Consideration is being given to publishing performance data more regularly. The data from the Dashboard would be posted on the Commissioner's web page. If there are any views on this proposal, they should be passed to the Commissioner's Office.
- L.H. will attend more Local RAUC meetings this year and asked for his email address to be added to the Invitation Lists. Local RAUC meetings will be included in the performance monitors.

#### Management & Operation of SRWR

L.H. provided a verbal report as follows: -

- The invoices for the Fees and Amounts were issued on 1<sup>st</sup> April and 48 out of 85 payments have now been received. A reminder was given that they must be paid by 1st June. If there are any queries, they should be directed to I.R. via the Enquiries email address.
- All should note that the telephone number for the Symology Support Desk has been changed to **0808 1968341** (or by email to [srwr@symology.co.uk](mailto:srwr@symology.co.uk)).
- Any problems or queries related to the Register should be reported to the support Desk. If there are any issues with the response, they can be escalated to I.R. via the Enquiries email address.
- The Webinars are continuing to be provided. The feedback suggests that they are being welcomed by the Community. If there are any suggestions for topics, they should be passed to I.R. or the Support Desk.
- All R.As should be agreeing the numbers of Sample Inspections to be used for this year. The figure on the Register is provided for information and does not take into account annual fluctuations in the planned programmes. The figure needs to be agreed with the Organisation and the corrected number recorded on the Register.
- All are reminded that the VAULT updates are now require every 2 months.
- There are interfacing facilities on the Register to allow connection to management systems. For more information contact I.R. via the enquiries email address.

## **6. Improvement Notice Action Tracking**

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

## **7. Health and Safety**

All should share bulletins or information on incidents from their Organisation which can be used for training and developing safety.

## **8. Combined reports and comments to cover Local RAUCS reports; Programmes of Major Works; Proposed Changes to road designations; local coring**

Ayrshire Roads Alliance – D.S.

- The 2021 / 22 programme is now being progressed with all works being posted on the Register.
- The Inspection Sample has still to be agreed with Scottish Water. C.C. will check that and respond to D.S.

Dumfries and Galloway Council – M.G.

- There was a good attendance at the last Local RAUC meeting.
- There were no issues to be remitted to this meeting.
- A meeting is to be held with Scottish Water.
- The Surface Dressing programme starts in the next two weeks and there may be some closures to accommodate the works.
- There are no designation changes planned.

East Dunbartonshire Council – C.S.

- The programme is recorded on the Register.

- The work on the Switchback Road will commence in July.

North Ayrshire Council – G.R.

- The works programme ongoing.
- The resurfacing programme is ongoing.
- There were no issues to remit to this meeting from the Local meeting.
- There was no internal coring being carried out.
- There are no designation changes planned.

North Lanarkshire Council – T.T.

- The works programme is posted on the Register.

South Lanarkshire Council – D.C.

- The works programme is posted on the Register.
- There were no issues to remit to this meeting from the Local meeting.
- There was no internal coring being carried out.
- There are no designation changes planned.

M6 Autolink – J.L.

- The current works including bridge painting are on the Register.

Balfour Beatty M77 DBFO – J.McC.

- No major works ongoing.
- Cyclic works are ongoing as required.
- The conversion of the lighting to LED has been completed.

BEAR Scotland M80 DBFO – M.C.

- Routine maintenance is ongoing.

Amey / SRP / M8DBFO – M.C.

- IT problems are ongoing.
- Waterproofing of the deck of the bridge over the A725 is programmed for June / July.

Amey – David Allen

- Summary of works was noted. (See circulated email)
- The cyclic work is ongoing and posted on the Register.
- Thanks to the S.U.s involved in the planning for the work on the Woodside Viaduct.
- Future works will be posted when programmed.

BEAR Scotland S.E. – D.R.

- Works on going using night shifts.



- There were no changes to road designations planned.
- There were no internal coring programmes being carried out.

Traffic Scotland – D.F.

- Works covered by the above comments.

Traffic Scotland – C.G.

- There are no major works planned.
- Maintenance being carried out as required or possible.
- Information on embargoes etc for the Euros and COP 26 will be issued soon.

Century Link – JJ Van Gran

- No Report available.

CityFibre –

- Works are posted on the Register.

Energy Assets – A.C.

- Works posted on the Register.
- Remove William Lygate from the Contact List.

GTC – B.H.

- Works posted on the Register.

Last Mile – K.B. / L.M.

- The works are recorded on the Register.

MBNL – EE/3 D.H.

- No Major works in the Area.
- Works will be recorded on the Register as and when required.

Network Rail – C.A.

- Works on the Register should be assumed to be going ahead.

Openreach – S.S.

- Fibre Upgrade ongoing in several areas. All on the Register.
- Will discuss the R100 projects with the R.As.

Petroineos – No Response.

Scottish Water – C.C.

- The works are recorded on the Register.
- Frames and Covers are available free of charge for replacing existing on resurfacing sites.
- A request is being issued to all R.As asking for agreement to use 30 / 14 reinstatements. Individual agreements would be acceptable at present but a national agreement would be the aim and the matter has been passed to the SROR Review Working Group asking for it to including it in the new Code.

- A demonstration of Vifix had been held and Scottish Water may consider introducing its use on reinstatements.
- More closures are being requested by the R.As and they will be progressed as and when it is correct to use one but the view is that they are being over requested. Comment on why the sudden increase would be appreciated.

Scottish Water – C.McQ.

- Works levels now back to normal.
- The 2021 / 2027 Capital Works programme now ongoing.
- The internal coring programme is now ongoing, and the results will be shared with the relevant RAs once they are agreed. The meetings to discuss the results are suspended at present due to the Covid pandemic.

SGN – I.D.

- The Reorganisation from 6 Depots to 4 Areas was completed and appears to have been successful.
- If there are any problems, they can be passed to J.G.

Sky – C.M.

- C.N. had lost signal but post meeting left a message to say that Sky have no works planned at present.

SPEN – E.S.

- Works and sites are back to normal.
- Works are recorded on the Register

SSET – R.S.

- No planned works in the area at present.
- SSET has been rebranded as Neos Networks.

Virgin Media – O.H.

- No planned works at present.

Verizon – Not on the call

Vodafone – K.D. Not present.

## **9. 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.

c. 30 / 14 Reinstatements

An email had been issued which suggested that the use of 30 / 14 reinstatement was acceptable in all the Areas. The matter had been discussed at the R.A. premeeting this morning and the view was that the matter needed more consideration.

There can be some efficiency and benefits in climate control where it is used in a joint reinstatement i.e. where a road and footway excavation is reinstated in one visit. To achieve net zero, all options need to be looked at.

The minimum layer thickness for this material is 35mm so the reinstatement will be thicker.

Scottish Water hope that R.As will agree to local agreements The proposal has been passed to the SROR Review Group to include this type of reinstatement in the new Code.

HAUC UK is considering this option and it was mentioned at the recent conference.

J.G. added that SGN have made local agreements with some of the R.As and hope to extend these agreements in due course.

The Commissioner had asked for a pragmatic approach to reinterment agreements during the Covid 19 Pandemic and this request was just asking for an ongoing extension pending the delivery of the SROR.

Scottish Water was asked to resend the email on the 30 / 14 agreement via the Secretary. **Action – C.C. / Secretary**

d. Contact Information

Stephen Kitt asked for his name to be added to the SW Contact List.

**Action – Secretary**

The Secretary asked for any changes to contacts or their details to be passed to him so that he could maintain his records. **Action - All**

**10. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting**

**SW Area RAUC Next Meeting: - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**This meeting will be held on MS TEAMS.**

**Future Meetings: -**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**The Meeting Venue: - To be agreed**

The meeting closed at 12.20