

Logistics & Freight Forum
Tuesday 30th May 2023, 1.30pm
Microsoft Office Teams

In Attendance:

Cllr Colin Davidson (Chair) (CD)	Fife Council
Brian Butler (BB)	SEStran
Keith Fisker (KF)	SEStran
Nikki Boath (NB)	SEStran
Cllr Dianne Alexander (DA)	Midlothian Council
Ian Budd (IB)	Friends of the Far North
Cllr Jenny Linehan (JL)	Scottish Borders Council
Douglas Norris (DN)	CILT UK
Jonathan Cowie (JC)	Edinburgh Napier University
Richard Stark (RS)	DTLX Drone Solutions
Frank Roach (FR)	Hitrans
Ian Buchanan (IB)	City of Edinburgh Council
Kevin Collins (KC)	Falkirk Council
Ewan Doyle (ED)	Scottish Borders Council
Cllr Robin Lawson (RL)	Fife Council
Simon Hindshaw (SW)	NCM
Jo Edmenson (JE)	P D Ports
Jenny Ritchie (JR)	Stantec
Emma Gilmour (EG)	Fife Council
Jane Findlay (JF)	Fife Council
Jim May (JM)	Transport Scotland
Paul Davison (PD)	AECOM
Greg McDougall (GM)	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Derek Glen (DG)	Fife Council
Cllr Danny Aston (DAston)	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Russell Imrie	Midlothian Council

Apologies:

Lynne Mason	RHA
Cllr Sally Pattle	West Lothian Council
Kenny Williamson	Forth Ports
James Ledgerwood	Scotrail
Lawrence Marshall	Capital Rail Action Group
Mark Richardson	Ristol Consulting Ltd
Cllr Ruaridh Bennett	East Lothian Council

Ref.		Actions
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	<p>The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.</p>	
2.	GO Forth Freight Study Update	
	<p>KF provided an update on the Freight Study. KF outlined the background and objectives of the study as well as the links to EU projects and investment from Scottish Government and SURFLOGH.</p> <p>KF outlined the approach which included investigating existing freight movements and the barriers facing multi modal freight. KF highlighted that a key element is understanding local, regional and national trends in freight flow. KF explained that SEStran are assessing current rail freight and opportunities to improve and maximise existing infrastructure.</p> <p>KF explained the link to Perth West through development of freight gateways. KF mentioned working with Forth Ports has been key and has contributed to their pitch for Green Freeport.</p> <p>KF also outlined the requirement for change, scope for change and requirement for intervention. KF outlined the next steps which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal with Transport Scotland for extension • Look at Green Free Port opportunities. • Explore cross border partnership opportunities with Transport for the Northeast • Use business cases to develop trials <p>There was a discussion regarding the freight study. The key points raised by Forum members for noting are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Converting companies from road to rail or road to sea – KF explained that there is existing rail infrastructure and this can be developed further. SEStran are investigating how to connect business opportunities to the infrastructure. • HGV decarbonisation – KF explained that alternative fuels are part of the study. • IB highlighted the issue of waste being moved from Inverness to Dunbar via road and asked about the possibility of providing a siding to allow the removal of waste via rail. KF invited FR to provide an update at the next Forum in November in relation to waste flows. KF to contact FR to discuss. CD & BB will also raise this query at the RTP Meeting next week. • LEZ – the impact it will have on freight industry. 	

	<p>CD suggested inviting Diageo's Global Freight Director to the next meeting to present Diageo's future freight strategy, including their carbon footprint challenges and increased cost of freight.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Flows - KF to contact FR to discuss. • Waste Flows - CD & BB will also raise this query at the RTP Meeting next week. • Send invitation to Diageo about presenting at next meeting 	<p>KF</p> <p>CD/BB</p> <p>KF</p>
3.	Perth West Sustainable Logistics Hub	
	<p>KF explained that in collaboration with the EU project SURFLOGH and Napier University, this project has focussed over the last 12-18 months on building a business case study for investment in developing sustainable freight solutions in and around the city of Perth. KF highlighted that the end goal is to enable urban logistics to decarbonise, operate commercially and evolve to improve the environment and create skills and jobs.</p> <p>KF outlined the research and explained the various challenges that have resulted from the research. KF also provided possible solutions to these challenges.</p>	
4.	Innovation with Drone Deliveries (DTLX Drone Solutions)	
	<p>RS gave a presentation on drone solutions and highlighted that his company's focus is to bring Beyond Visual Line of Sight drone flight to the United Kingdom. RS highlighted that currently drones are limited to Visual Line of Sight.</p> <p>RS explained the logistics market is focussed on middle and last mile deliveries. RS indicated companies who are using drones of various sizes to provide deliveries. RS highlighted the amount of time saved by using drones rather than road deliveries in particular to the more rural areas of Scotland.</p> <p>RS outlined the flight ranges.</p> <p>RS explained that it is more cost effective to use a drone to provide rural medical supplies and middle mile island deliveries. RS also highlighted that drones cost less to build and maintain compared to roads and rail.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KF to send DLTX slides to forum members 	<p>KF</p>
5.	Future Work Streams	
	<p>KF mentioned that if anyone has any ideas for topics for the next L&F Forum to contact him – keith.fisken@sestran.gov.uk</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	Date of next meeting	
	The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 21 st November 2023 at 1.30pm.	