

Meeting Minutes for Cleaner Air for Scotland Governance Group

Location: St. Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Date: 9 Aug 2017
Time: 10:00 – 13:00

Present

Graham Applegate, GA (SEPA)	Vincent McNally, VM (Glasgow City Council)
Aileen Brodie, AB (Aberdeen City Council)	Janice Milne, JM (SEPA)
Shauna Clarke, SC (City of Edinburgh Council)	Eleanor Pratt, EP (SEPA/SG)
James Curran, JC (Scottish Environment Link)	Neil Ritchie, NR (Scottish Government)
Gillian Dick, GD (Heads of Planning Scotland)	Yvette Sheppard, YS (Transport Scotland)
Colin Gillespie, CG (SEPA)	Andrew Taylor, AT (Scottish Government)
Drew Hill, DH (Transport Scotland)	Stephen Thomson, ST (Transport Scotland)
Martin Marsden, MM (SEPA)	Iris Whyte, IW (Dundee City Council)

Chair

Neil Ritchie (Scottish Government)

Apologies

Lorna Bryce, LB (SEPA)	Bruce Kiloh, BK (SPT)
Emilia Hanna, EH (Scottish Environment Link)	Colin Ramsay, CR (Health Protection Scotland)
David Kernohan, DK (SG Health Protection)	

Item	Title	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome and introductions</u></p> <p>Yvette Sheppard (Transport Scotland) has joined ST’s air quality team, covering air quality, LEZs and NLEF, and the transport actions in CAFS.</p> <p>NR flagged the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (ECCLR) committee inquiry into air quality, which included a call for evidence (deadline Fri 18 Aug 2017). The committee also wrote to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform with specific questions on CAFS, KPIs and the High Court judgement. Ms Cunningham’s response is now available in the correspondence section of the ECCLR’s Air Quality page.</p> <p>It was noted that the UK Government also published its updated NO2 action plan and accompanying zonal plans on 26 July, which have been submitted to the European Commission as required by the most recent High Court judgement.</p>	
2.	<p><u>2018 LEZ Consultation</u></p> <p>ST provided an update on the development of the ‘Building Scotland’s Low Emission Zones consultation. A draft document has been prepared taking account of comments from CAFS GG members and others, and sent to Scottish Government, Transport Scotland directors, and Special Parliamentary Advisors (SPADs) for review, prior to submission to ministers.</p>	

	<p>Publication for 12 weeks on the Scottish Government Citizen Space consultation hub is due w/c 4 Sep. Responses to the consultation will inform decisions on the 2018 LEZ/s, and will also inform ongoing development of the NLEF guidance which will continue to be worked on in the meantime.</p> <p>The need for a 2018 LEZ position statement was reiterated. This should be taken from the final consultation document once it is signed off by ministers.</p> <p>Action 1: EP to circulate 2018 LEZ position statement once consultation document signed off.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>2018 Tasks/Planning</u></p> <p>Key points:</p> <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear sub-actions for 1.1.3 (policy instructions re: inclusion of LEZs in Transport Bill) required. <p>Action 2: EP to liaise with ST to develop further.</p> <p><u>Enforcement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for in-principle proposals for a central vs local procurement system for LEZ enforcement had been discussed at the previous CAFS GG meeting. After further discussion it was agreed that this paper should focus on <u>service provision</u> (i.e. what services will be required to deliver an LEZ, how these could be delivered, and whether local or national delivery would be preferable etc.). <p>Action 3: ST to develop paper on service provision for submission to LA chief executives by end of August 2017. LA reps to speak to heads of service/colleagues to gather consensus views on how these proposals would work in practice. Initial high level submission to ministers by end September 2017; decision by end October 2017.</p> <p><u>Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spending review submissions have been made for new funding, although there is still uncertainty about when budget will actually be released. - Prioritisation of existing funds will be considered also. - Discussions with Transport Scotland policy leads for the Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) and Green Bus Fund (GBF) indicate they may be open to funding being aligned to Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership definitions of Low Emission Vehicles (LEVs) which defines 'low emission' in terms of air quality as well as GHG emissions. Questions remain around how funding could be prioritised to particular routes, e.g. LEZs. - The Jacobs report on economic assessment of LEZs is complete, but requires comments back to the authors before circulation. - The need for some political reassurance on funding was noted. 	

Action 4: ST to circulate Jacobs report once reviewed.

Action 5: EP to circulate report from workshops with bus operators to CAFS GG members.

- City Deals had previously been suggested as a possible funding stream to explore, however it was felt that as they focus mainly on potentially 'LEZ-unfriendly' infrastructure/hard engineering solutions, perhaps other avenues should be explored first. The National Planning Framework review may free up monies within the City Deals for more 'LEZ-friendly' options in the future.
- Ongoing engagement required with Transport Scotland policy leads on electric vehicle charging infrastructure to ensure awareness of/funding targeted to LEZs and AQMAs.
- The Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2), looking at strategic infrastructure projects 2018/19 above £5 million may provide some opportunities for LEZs.

Defining Progress

- The Scottish Air Quality Indicator project is now back on track, with the final report due by end of September.

Action 6: EP to schedule dedicated CAFS GG meeting to discuss development of KPIs – provisionally scheduled for 30 October.

Defining Actions

- Transport modelling is urgently required for Glasgow/Edinburgh to determine the impacts of an LEZ on the wider area to allow submission of proposals to committee/Traffic Commissioner (see below).
- Defining early adopter cities: Transport Scotland are issuing letters to chief executives of Edinburgh and Glasgow (where modelling most progressed) asking for engagement to begin more formal conversations on early adopter LEZs across professions. After discussion it was agreed letters should be issued to Dundee/Aberdeen also.

Action 7: ST to issue letters to all 4 local authorities requesting formal cross-professional engagement on LEZs ASAP.

Transport models

- There is a lack of sufficiently detailed transport models for Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee, although Regional Transport Partnership (RTP) models exist, which cover transport modes using set routes (e.g. buses).

Action 8: Transport Scotland to arrange meeting with SEPA and SPT to discuss transport model for Glasgow ASAP.

	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEPA issued revised SEA guidance on air quality at the end of April. - Development of air quality training for local authority planners is ongoing. This can be linked to the work to develop use of the Place Standard to support CAFS/LEZs. <p><u>Delivering Actions:</u></p> <p>Action 9: CG developing outline for Traffic Commissioner submissions for circulation to ST and LAs ASAP.</p> <p><u>Comms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was acknowledged that the comms workstream is experiencing resourcing issues, and requires further consideration at the next meeting as a key area for development, both for the LEZ and wider CAFS comms strategy. - The comms working group requires reconfiguration. - A dedicated comms resource in SEPA being recruited for. - A draft LEZ comms plan is being developed by Transport Scotland. <p>Action 10: EP to schedule comms as key item for discussion at next CAFS GG meeting.</p> <p>Action 11: ST and MM to discuss ongoing management/review of 2018 plan in order to only focus on red flag issues during CAFS GG meetings.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review progress to date, deliverables, membership and links to other groups. - Forward planning for future meetings – comms, KPIs, placemaking, research leads/requirements etc. - Comms. <p>Action 12: EP/NR to scope out key questions to focus on and develop meeting plan for circulation.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Reflections/AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that there is a need to avoid a high level of technical detail in these meetings (see Action 11), and more structured forward planning of meetings is required. <p><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lack of contact with business was highlighted – any role for this group, moving into delivery phase for LEZs? Require to be represented on CAFS GG. 	
6.	Thanks and Close	

