

APSE Transport & mechanical Services Advisory Group  
Wednesday 12 October 2016  
Fife Renewables & Innovation Centre

1. Introduction & Welcome

Emil Laiolo welcomed all to the meeting which was once more well attended by Scottish local authorities.

2. Attendance & Apologies

See attached.

3. Minute of previous meeting held on 16 March 2016

The group confirmed the minutes to be a true and accurate record of the day.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting (16 March).

5. Bright Green Hydrogen – who we are and what we do

Lorna Archer of Bright Green Hydrogen delivered an interesting presentation on the work of Bright Green Hydrogen. The presentation covered the local ambitions for Levenmouth as a leading centre for renewable energy. The Hydrogen Office demonstrates how excess renewable energy can be stored as hydrogen and was awarded LES Challenge Funds of £4.4 million for the project. This allowed for an increase in generation from 750kW to 910kW, an increase in buildings on the microgrid network, hydrogen energy storage system, two hydrogen refuelling stations, energy flow managed by Toshiba H2EMS, a fleet of 17 vehicles served (10 Renault Kangoo electric vans, 5 Ford Transits, 2 Refuse collection vehicles – all dual-fuel vehicles) and investigation into rural hydrogen. During the questions section of the presentation, Lorna confirmed that the facility was not just for demonstration, but was also available for operational use by the public.

6. Discussion items:

- Fit to drive update

**The group's secretary delivered an update on fit to drive and the discussion that followed** covered: the potential need for health checks to start before 45 years of age, the lack of Scottish law around medicines and driving which exist in England and Wales, discussions of dealings with unions and HR, alternative technologies (e.g. Scandanavian), the frequency of tests required, the level of checks required to satisfy courts of the suitability of individuals to drive, the lack of national government guidance and issues with medical practitioners. The group agreed to continue discussions at future meetings.

- Vision Techniques Stop Safe System update

**Discussions were held around Vision Techniques' Stop Safe system.** This covered the use of this system for local authorities, whether this was a solution for problems faced, whether this was cost effective and which types of vehicles it was compatible with. One local authority reported having positive feedback from the Health and Safety Executive on a vehicle that was fully equipped with Vision Techniques technology. They agreed to circulate this feedback amongst attendees.

- Vehicle specifications update

The group's secretary informed the group of a recent vehicle specifications update which included near side sensors for cyclists and children, 360 degree cameras and audible warnings (e.g. to say when turning left).

- New vehicle procurement options update

The group discussed their vehicle procurement needs and options, the inability of contracts to provide everything they needed (e.g. maintained vehicles needing parts) and the lack of flexibility that would allow Councils to accept time-limited good deals. One local authority reported that [Crown Commercial Service's Dynamic Purchasing System](#) may be a solution, and advised others to carry out research on this.

- Emerging technologies for fleet management and utilisation

There was interest in the room of combining fleet technologies with other technologies. One attendee reported developing a scheme where Council ID cards were used to access pool cars. Another Council informed the group that they were currently going through a tracker evaluation process and asked others about the available choices. An attendee spoke about software that submits jobs directly to vehicles and the benefits of this to the Council. Another spoke about a gritting system that only grits based on the temperature of the area. Other discussion topics included the testing of driverless cars in Milton Keynes and carded access tests.

- Looking at Grey Fleet size in relation to the total size of the Council workforce and whether it's excessive

One authority shared that they felt that the use of grey fleet within their authority was excessive. Other authorities shared their data in the meeting to allow for comparison.

- NLC Patient transport trial update

The Council provided an update on their patient transport trial, where they were looking to improve the utilisation of their vehicles by picking up patients along the way and delivering them to and from hospital. Discussions on a fair pricing for this service are still to take place with the NHS, and early reports found that the Council would benefit from more flexibility from the ambulance service.

## 7. APSE Update

Garry Lee delivered an update on the recent work of the APSE Scotland office including **recent briefings, the upcoming 'Better Together' publication** on the relationships between councillors, officers and the community, as well as updates on APSE Energy, Training, Solutions and Performance Networks.

## 8. A.O.C.B.

None.

## 9. Future Agenda items for next meeting

The **group agreed to keep the 'fit to drive update'** as a standing item on the agenda.

## 10. Fife Hydrogen Office project tour

Chris Jackson gave **the group a tour of the Fife Hydrogen Office's hydrogen generation and storage equipment** and answered a range of questions

## 11. Tranman working group

Dave Knapman confirmed that he had not been able to make contact with Civica to set up **a meeting to discuss the working group's issues**. The Tranman working group agreed to

draft a letter to Civica outlining their current issues with the system (in terms of cost, level of technical support, etc). There was a discussion on potential alternatives moving forward, should current concerns continue. It was highlighted that there was a possibility the APSE module had not been updated as regularly as required. The group also suggested that release 9 had some teething issues but was essential for getting their fitters onto tablet devices.

Finally, the group suggested a possible change to the PN template around work done under warranty, and Dave Knapman agreed to look at the Guidance notes for fair wear and tear to improve their clarity.

#### Attendance

Garry Lee	APSE
Dave Knapman	APSE IQSS
Mark Reilly	Aberdeen City Council
William Whyte	Aberdeen City Council
Paul Reid	Aberdeen City Council
Paul McPherson	Angus Council
Claire Roger	Angus Council
Andrew Ballantyne	City of Edinburgh Council
Scott Blyth	Clackmannanshire Council
Gordon Bryce	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Ian Dalgleish	East Lothian Council
Pat Taggart	Falkirk Council
David Pugh	Falkirk Council
Tom Henderson	Fife Council
Ewan Cairns	Fife Council
Emil Laiolo	Glasgow City Council
James MacDonald	Highland Council
Trevor Docherty	Midlothian Council
Gordon Mitchell	North Ayrshire Council
Graham Johnstone	North Lanarkshire Council
John Stewart	North Lanarkshire Council
Bill Morton	Perth and Kinross Council
Andy Greig	Renfrewshire Council
John Blake	West Dunbartonshire Council

#### Apologies

William Whyte	Aberdeen City Council
Ian Paisley	Aberdeenshire Council
Gordon Ross	Aberdeenshire Council
Rob Fraser	City of Edinburgh Council
Graham Hodgkins	Fife Council
Jacqueline Currie	Fife Council
Danny Jack	Fife Council

CLlr John Wincott	Fife Council
John McWilliams	Inverclyde Council
Jim Bradley	Inverclyde Council
Catherine Gibson	North Ayrshire Council
Liam Gibson	North Ayrshire Council
Gerry Farrell	North Lanarkshire Council
David Burnie	Renfrewshire Council