

CPG on Rail in the Scottish Parliament Minutes

Meeting at Holyrood 10th May 2017

Sederunt: Brian McClean (Glasgow Airport), Ross Nimmo (Glasgow Airport), Don Barclay (Levenmouth Rail Campaign), David Johnstone (Grayling), Vic Mackinlay (LRTA – Edinburgh), Iain MacDonald (Light Rail UK – Scotland), Liam Kerr MSP, Allison Cosgrove (Rail Future Scotland), Stephen Young (Civil Engineering Contractors Association), Ken Sutherland (Rail Future Scotland), Roderick McDougall (Rail Future Scotland), Nils Oellerich (Scottish Parliament)

Chair: John Mason MSP

Vice Chair: Pauline McNeill MSP

Apologies: Barrie Forrest (RAGES), Jim Harkins (Light Rail UK), Jane Ann Lawson (STARLINK), Niamh Hegarty (Network Rail)

Welcome from the Chair, John Mason MSP.

Introductions from those present.

Previous minutes were discussed and agreed.

Brian McClean (Group Head of Communications) and Ross Nimmo (Head of Planning and Development) from Glasgow Airport delivered a presentation on the Glasgow Airport Access Project, Linking the Airport and the City.

The presentation covered:

- An overview of Glasgow Airport and its operations
- Transport today: existing forms of transport access
- Strategic Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG) process recap
- Airport access project overview
- Airport access project progress: including passenger survey results, business survey results, demand forecasts, passenger mode share, cost-benefit analysis
- Next steps: project timeline
- Future airport development: passenger projections, economic area around the airport
- Video of key statistics for the project

The Glasgow Airport team then answered questions from the group.

Topics raised included:

- Integration of tram/train into current network
- Risks to tram/train project
- Concerns with the STAG process
- STAG best practice
- Plane to train distance
- Operator of the service, and track maintenance
- Congestion concerns: road and rail
- Purchase of rolling stock
- Service details and statistics (frequency, line speed, track, stops)
- Onward connections
- Choice of high floor vehicle
- Future proofing and long term planning
- Concerns around incompatibility of plans with heavy rail
- Journey time reliability
- Stop at Paisley Gilmore Street
- Drop-off access at stations that service the line
- Capacity concerns at Glasgow Central
- Potential public consultation

The CPG discussed possible future subjects, including:

- Getting the Transport Minister to attend future meeting
- Presentation from Samaritans and Suicide Preventions group
- Light Rail
- Presentation from the Unions on their perspective
- Heritage Rail; Strathspey and Bo'ness
- Presentation on capacity
- Protecting routes

Next meeting: Was agreed that the Co-conveners and Secretariat would meet and agree on the date for the next meeting, the agenda and then circulate amongst CPG members and post on the CPG website at

<http://www.parliament.scot/msps/rail.aspx>