

Argyll, Lochaber, Skye and Small Isles Ferry Stakeholder Group Action Note

Monday 3rd June 2019 at McCaig Suite, Corran Halls, Oban

Present:

Cllr Mary Jean Devon, Argyll and Bute Council, Chair
Cllr Elaine Robertson, Argyll and Bute Council
Cllr Roddy McCuish, Argyll and Bute Council / HITRANS
Cllr Denis Rixson, Highland Council
Cllr Allan Henderson, Highland Council / HITRANS
Cllr, Iain MacNeil, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Richard Porteous, Highland Council
Murray Bain, Highland Council
Caroline Connolly, Transport Scotland
Alan McCabe, Transport Scotland
Kevin Hobbs, CMAL
David Herriot, CalMac Community Board
Elizabeth Ferguson, Mull and Iona Ferry Committee
Robbie Drummond, CalMac Ferries Limited
Robert Morrison, CalMac Ferries Limited
Demi Wylie, CalMac Ferries Limited
Finlay MacRae, CalMac Ferries Limited
Jennifer Dyer, CalMac Ferries Limited
Andrew MacNair, CalMac Ferries Limited
Ranald Robertson, HITRANS
Julie Cromarty, HITRANS
Anne McGregor, Jacobs
Gordon Blair, Jacobs
Ker Corbett, Scottish Citylink

Apologies:

Cllr Donald Manford, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Iain MacKinnon, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Robert Trythall, Tiree Community Council
Pippa Milne, Argyll and Bute Council
Stewart Clark Marine Ops, Argyll & Bute Council
David Summers, Highland Council
David Adams McGilp, Visit Scotland
Gary Adams, Kerrera Ferry Committee
Scott Dingwall, HIE
Rob Ware, Sleat Transport Forum
Roderick Murray, Sleat Community Council
Cllr Robin Currie, Argyll and Bute Council
Jane MacLeod, Business Representative
Richard Hadfield, Transport Scotland

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Cllr Mary Jean Devon appointed as Chair.
Cllr Allan Henderson appointed as Vice Chair.

2. Minute of Meeting held on 3 December and 5 December 2018

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate account of both meetings.

Action – It was agreed to move to minuting in the form of an Action note for the FSG from this meeting onwards.

3. Matters Arising

No actions recorded under this item.

4. VRDP Update by Transport Scotland

Caroline Connolly presented the draft VRDP Annual Report for 2018 (which includes 2017 update).

Action – Members will submit written comments on the draft VRDP to Transport Scotland by Friday 21 June 2019

Action – Members proposed inviting the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and Islands to attend a future meeting of this FSG.

Action – Caroline Connolly to ask Richard Hadfield to provide more detail on the work actually being done in respect of the VDRP and the timescales that can be expected for publication.

5. Outer Hebrides STAG

Caroline Connolly provided an update on the OH STAG.

Action – Members will consider responding to the Oh STAG survey on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OuterHebridesExhibitionQuestionnaire>

6. Caledonian MacBrayne Operational and Performance Update

Andrew McNair presented a marketing and commercial update.

Finlay MacRae provided the update on operational reporting.

Action – It was agreed that the approach taken to operational reporting is supported by the Argyll FSG and this item should be retained on future agendas.

Action – Alan McCabe to get a copy of the specific protocols being used and circulate them amongst members as soon as possible.

Action – Transport Scotland (Caroline and Alan will feed this back) that the issue with campervans on ferries and the space they are taking up should be built into policy decisions around managing this demand the the future pricing policy that members felt could apply to these vehicles.

Action – Transport Scotland to provide an update on the RET Review and Commercial Fares Review at the next meeting.

7. CMAL Update

Kevin Hobbs provided an update on CMAL activities.

8. Ports / Harbours

No Argyll and Bute Council officer was present to report but Cllr Robertson provided an update on the proposal to make Oban a Trust port. This work is progressing.

Action – Cllr McCuish would ensure a Council officer attends future meetings to provide a verbal report under this item.

9. Masters Decision Making – Presentation

Robbie Drummond presented this item alongside Mark Thomson, covering the process that is followed by Masters on decision taking around the operation of sailings.

Action – Elizabeth Ferguson will circulate the presentation around ferry committee members and Mary Jean Devan will circulate around the community councils

Action – Roddy McCuish will arrange a meeting to resolve the infrastructure issues with Craignure pier.

Action – Ranald Robertson to ensure that those presenting papers to FSG meetings do so at least a week in advance to avoid a repeat of the late circulation of items that left Members little time to scrutinise papers before the meeting. Those members present noted this requirement and agreed they would seek to provide papers in more timely fashion.

10. Communities Board Update

David Herriot provided update on the CalMac Community Board.

11. Strategic Transport Projects Review Stakeholder Engagement Presentation

Anne McGregor & Gordon Blair provided an overview using a power point presentation.

Action – Anne McGregor & Gordon Blair to provide an update on their work at the next meeting.

12. Date of next meeting

It was agreed the next meeting would be scheduled for **Monday 2nd December 2019** in Oban.