

Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland



Online Committee Meeting



Who was at the meeting?

Linda Bamford, Convener
Naghath Ahmed
Joanne Devitt
Graham Dunn
Susan Fulton
David Hunter
Ewan Mathieson
Lynsey Shovlin
Hilary Stubbs
Michael Tornow
Simon Watkins



Officials:

Bryan Little – Joined meeting at 11.30
and left at 11.50
Alexis Devlin - **Secretariat**
Maureen Olliffe - **Secretariat**

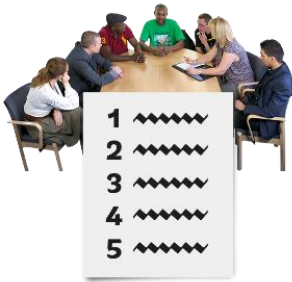


The **Secretariat** are an admin team
who organise and record meetings.

Who was not at the meeting?:

Audrey Birt
Fraser Sutherland
Heather Still
Pauline Kelly





Agenda Item 1 Welcome, apologies and introductions.

Linda welcomed everyone including the new members.



Linda said this meeting is different as it is a legislative meeting that includes her report, work plans and the sponsor team update.



The Convener reminded people about the MACS Framework Document and encouraged new members to read it.

All Committee members introduced themselves.

They said what their roles in the Committee are and any organisations they are linked to.



Agenda item 2 Approval of minutes, matters arising and update on action points from the July meeting.

The July 2021 minutes were approved.



Secretariat will give Susan up to date on the Strategic Projects Review.

The meeting agreed all actions from July 2021 were now closed.



Agenda item 3. Update from Convener.

Linda talked about the risk register which is updated every 3 months.

If Committee members want more information they can contact Karen or Linda.

Action Point 1: MACS members can contact the Secretariat if they want to see the risk register or get a copy of it.



Linda talked about 'Knowing me, Knowing you' sessions.

These are the MACS Team sessions to get to know each other better.

There are no meetings for next year yet.

Action Point 2: Committee members to give Linda ideas for 'Knowing me, knowing you' sessions and say if they want to help organise or chair the sessions.



Linda said all members will get the Scoping Day papers including easy read versions before 4 November.

The Committee are happy for the consultation section to be taken out of the super report.

Action Point 3: Secretariat will send an update of the consultation database to committee members at the beginning of each month.

Action Point 4: The Convener will send Michael a different version of information in the super report so that he can view it with his screen reader.



Michael asked if children with sensory impairment are included in the adaptive bike test project.

Wheelness and Freewheel North are part of the project.



Simon said 6 test projects were approved in August 2021 and there should be 2 more including one just for adaptive bikes.

Three of the projects will have adaptive bikes.

The other 3 will tell people where they can get adaptive bikes.



Hilary asked how people will know about the bike projects.

Linda said local organisations and schools are telling parents and carers about the projects.

Simon said these are only test projects and work is still happening.



Naghat asked if the Scottish Government's commitment to offer 'free bikes for children who cannot afford one' is just for families on benefits.

Simon said there is no test for who can get the free bikes.



Agenda Item 4: Sponsor Team paper and update

Brian joined the meeting.

CalMac Ferries have a new way for blue badge holders to phone and book before they travel on 'Turn Up and Go' routes.



It should mean passengers do not have to stand and queue for tickets. Staff can check blue badges at the vehicle instead of in the booking office.

Action Point 5: Brian will talk with ferries staff to check if people with Blue Badges can 'turn up and go' or if they need to call before they travel.

He will check if people with Blue Badges can book online or have to do it over the phone.



Susan asked about the Blue Badge guidance for Local councils.

Brian said staff are changing the guidance after meetings with councils, blue badge holders and healthcare staff.

A leaflet will be published in the next few months.



The 3 groups that helped revise the guidance all helped with the review of Blue Badge application forms to make them simpler.



Michael asked why for people who are blind must re-apply for a blue badge.

Brian said this lets the local council check if the person is on their register.

They hope to introduce a 'not for reassessment' application form that will mean people give less information when they apply.



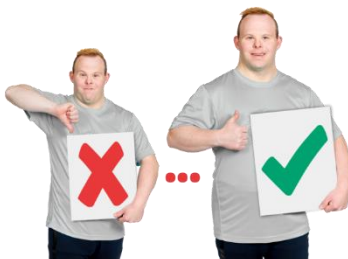
Hilary asked if the application would be available in Easy Read.

Brian said the form will be available in accessible formats if someone asks.



Michael said it had taken a long time for him to get a new Blue Badge when it was lost, and it was a difficult process to go through.

Brian said badge holders must report the badge lost or stolen to the police to stop someone else using it and so the local council know.



Naghat asked if there are different forms depending what an applicant's disability is.

Brian said yes and that the new forms will be shorter so they are easier to fill out.



Linda asked when a report about the adaptive bike hire consultation will be published.

The consultation closed in June 2021.

Action Point 6 – Secretariat to send on report of adaptive bike consultation when it is published.



Agenda Item 5: Workstream Leads Update

Planning and Strategy

David talked about the Programme for Government.

The Accessibility Team are making a briefing paper about how MACS could influence policy.



There is a Motability Operations meeting in November.

They want more people to join the Motability sub-group.

Action Point 7 – MACS members to email David if they would like to join the Motability sub-group.



The second National Transport Delivery Plan will be published in Spring 2022.

David asked the Committee to think about:

- what should be in the plan
- how can MACS influence the next plan?



David will tell the Committee the date and time of the next meeting of the National Transport Strategy 2 Delivery Board.

Action Point 8 – Secretariat will send out the NTS2 Delivery Plan.



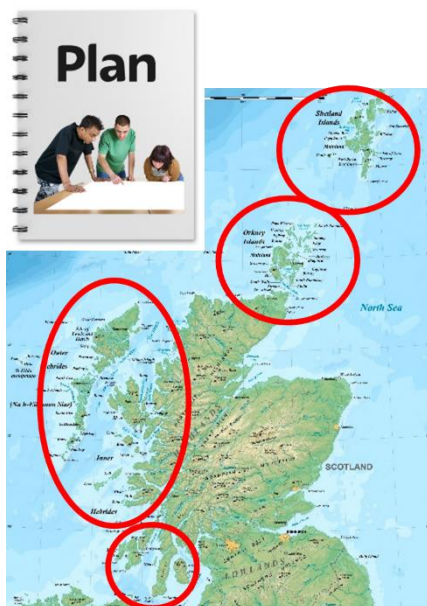
Ferries and Planes

Hilary welcomed new members.

Hilary talked about the money available for ferry companies and harbours to make things accessible.

MACS are on the group that decides how the money is given out.

The workstream have given information about what they think of the application form for the ferries accessible fund.



The main work of the group is on the Island Connectivity Plan.

This plan will replace the Ferries Plan when it is completed.



PAMIS and CalMac will be working together about **Changing Places** on ferries and will ask MACS members for advice and information.

Changing Places toilets are larger accessible toilets with hoists, adult-sized changing benches and space for carers.

Action Point 9 – Secretariat to set up an online poll to arrange a ferries meeting to introduce new workstream members and tell them about the work plan.



Hilary will send members the aviation strategy consultation

She is waiting for information about the Islands Connectivity Plan.

Hilary talked about events and consultations about Mobility as a Service and the Island's Plan.



Rail

Simon said ScotRail will keep checking how passenger assistance is being used when there are no more coronavirus restrictions.

Action Point 10 – The Secretariat will send Simon the information Fraser sent to the timetable consultation.



Bus and Community Transport

Linda spoke for Audrey who is on holiday

Audrey sent a report to a consultation about bus services

Action Point 11: Secretariat will put Audrey's consultation report on the MACS website.



Linda said the Scottish National Action Plan for Human Rights and the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) had a lived experience leadership group.

There are not many disabled people on the groups.

Committee members who would like to be part of the SHRC group should let Audrey know.

Roads, Infrastructure and Active Travel

Susan is new to this role and is learning lots of new things.

She will make a monthly newsletter about projects they are working on.

Other workstreams could get a copy.

Ewan would like a copy.





There is a Paths for All event in December.

Michael is going to a Jacobs Transport Planning Day.

Michael gave information to an assessment of Sustrans 2014 guidance for councils about Active Travel plans.

Sustrans are changing the guidance.

Action Point 12 – Michael will send the committee the new Sustrans guidance when it is available.



Michael gave information to a Public Health Scotland assessment report about health inequalities and roads.

Action Point 13 – Michael will share Health Inequalities Impact Assessment report when it is published and will send the link to Secretariat to put on MACS website.

He will send the Secretariat the link to the NICE Physical Activity and Environment Guideline to go on MACS website.



David has shared the 'Small Changes can make a Big Difference' paper but has not heard if it has changed the way councils spend money on active travel.

He asked Committee members to share this document with their own networks.



Graham went to an energy saving workshop about electric vehicles and how this will work for people on a low income and disabled people.



Joanne said sometimes she does not get emails because they go to her email junk folder.

Action Point 14 – Secretariat to check guidance from previous MACS member on emails arriving in junk folder.

Agenda Item 6: Key Messages for Twitter



David talked about MACS twitter activities.

David, Ewan and Audrey will have a meeting about this.

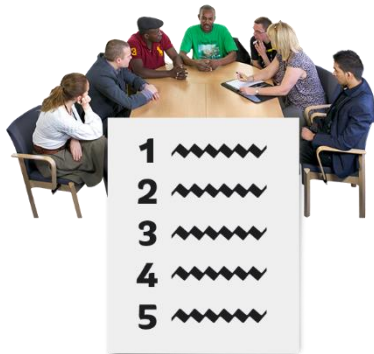
Members can send David messages to share on MACS Twitter account.

Agenda Item 7: Anything else we need to talk about?



Linda apologised for the short notice of the meeting with Patrick Harvie MSP and the early start time.

The agenda, information and link to the meeting had been sent.



The information for the Scoping Day on 18 November 2021 will be sent out before 4 November.

The information for the discussion on 14 December about how the committee is set up will be sent out before 30 November.

This will be a meeting for MACS members only.

Linda talked about emails to MACS members.



Emails will be checked by the Secretariat and passed on to the right MACS member if they need more information.



Each email will have information at the start:

- a title – what the email is about
- if the email is for information or for action
- who needs to do the work and by when.

This will make sure MACS members do not get too many emails.

It will be easier for them to know what work they need to do.

Links for MS Teams meetings will have the meeting type, date and time in the subject line of the email.

MS Teams links will be on each agenda.

Linda and Hilary have met with Karen and John Maxwell about emails to see if these new actions make things better.

Hilary said meetings in person will not start until Spring 2022 as Scottish Government staff still mostly work from home.



The Secretariat will test technology prior before any meeting to make sure it works for all members.

Members will be asked to be involved in the testing.

Action Point 15: Secretariat will update Public Bodies list with new Secretariat contact details.

Action Point 16: Secretariat to send out new induction pack to the committee.

Agenda Item 8: End of meeting.



Linda thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

She thanked Fraser Sutherland for his work with MACS in the last 5 years.

He is leaving MACS at the end of the year.

Linda closed the meeting.