

SCOTTISH RAIL STRATEGY STEERING GROUP

VICTORIA QUAY

1st December 2005

Present

Malcolm Reed	SE
Janet Egdell	SE
Peter Fuller	SE
Denise Manzor	SE
Ron McAulay	NR
Nigel Wunsch	NR
Geoff Cook	NR
Richard Eccles	NR
Gerard O'Hanlon	First Scotrail
Paul Hadley	ORR

Agenda Items

1. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of 3 November were approved without amendment.

2. Action Points

AP 5: 'Decide exact wording of resource scenarios'

It was agreed to leave as scenario A & B.

All other action points cleared.

3. Way Forward for the Scottish Planning Assessment

Comments have been received on the first draft of Part Two of the Scottish Planning Assessment. The format has been discussed with ARUP and it has been decided that the report will be restructured. The new format will present the conclusions and recommendations at a more strategic level with less emphasis on the detail of projects. The technical detail will be captured and presented in appendices.

4. National Transport Strategy Update

The consultation on rail priorities for the National Transport Strategy will close on 28th December although responses will be accepted up to 13th January. An analysis of responses will be published by 7 April 2006.

A consultation document on the National Transport Strategy will be issued in January/February.

5. Progress with the RUS

Nigel Wunsch gave a presentation on the Route Utilisation Strategy process. The scope has been established and the Baseline pack was issued on 11th November.

There will be ongoing consultation with stakeholders and it is hoped that the completed RUS will go out to consultation in around April/May next year.

The RUS will build on the SPA work and ARUP are working with the Network Rail demand team on demand assessment work.

It was highlighted that clarity is needed on the RUS Linkage with the High Level Output Statement and the potential for a joint stakeholder liaison event in the spring was discussed.

6. Network Rail Discretionary Fund

Network Rail previously circulated a spreadsheet showing schemes identified so far for funding from the discretionary fund. Business cases are still being prepared for these so it is possible that some of the schemes will not go ahead and the projected costs may change.

It was agreed that written comments on the proposed schemes and suggestions for other schemes would be sent to NR.

Also previously circulated was the draft appraisal guidance which is under discussion between NR/SE/DfT. It was agreed that one set of guidance is preferable rather than separate guidance for Scotland.

7. AOB

None

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be rescheduled. The revised date is 23rd January at 2:30 in Buchanan House, Glasgow.