

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
TRANSPORT ADVISORY GROUP**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Tuesday 17 July 2001  
GOSE, Bridge House, Guildford**

Present:	John Ekins (Chair) Martin Tugwell Lindsay Gardner Paul Hudson David Cooper Jim Boud Colin Murray Roger Slevin Sheila Holden Colin McKenna John Guttridge (New Member) Pat Baxter (New Member)	Hampshire County Council South East England Regional Assembly South East England Regional Assembly SEEDA GOSE Highways Agency South East Forum for Sustainability Buckinghamshire County Council Brighton and Hove City Council West Sussex County Council Freight Transport Association Reading Borough Council
Apologies:	Callum Findlay Katharine Palmer Ron Turner Robin Smith Peter Shelley Laura Wren Alastair Jefford	Surrey County Council Surrey County Council NHS Executive Havant Borough Council Confederation of Passenger Transport Strategic Rail Authority Kent County Council

<b>Item</b>		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Introductions and Apologies for absence</b>	
1.1	JE introduced himself as chair for the meeting as CF was away on leave.	
1.2	Two new members were introduced. John Guttridge from the Freight Transport Association and Pat Baxter from Reading Borough Council, as a replacement to Ellis Dallal, who has left the group.	
1.3	Eight apologies were received.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Meeting 2 May 2001</b>	
2.1	The minutes of the last meeting on 2 May were agreed.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
3.1	MT provided feedback on items considered by the Regional Planning Committee and the Assembly AGM. Regional Planning Committee had discussed PPG13, the London Mayor's Spatial Development Strategy and the Central Railway proposal. Formal comments on all these items were reported back to respective organisations.  The Assembly AGM considered and agreed the formal recommendations for the Secretary of State on the A27 Worthing-Lancing Integrated Transport Study.	
3.2	The English Regions Transport Officers Group (ERTOG) has met since the last TAG meeting. The group agreed to develop existing liaison mechanisms with the Strategic Rail Authority, DTLR, the English Tourism Council and other national organisations, as a mechanism for discussing transport issues pertinent to the regions.	

**3.3** MT advised that following the Hastings announcement by the DTLR, the Regional Assembly had published a press release. The Regional Assembly expressed its disappointment that the whole package of measures, as outlined in its recommendation to the Secretary of State were not approved. Officers are now considering how to move forward in the light of the decision.

**3.4** PH advised that SEEDA were also disappointed that the bypasses were rejected, but recognised that Hastings still urgently required a regeneration framework, and that SEEDA were beginning that work.

**3.5** MT advised that a paper setting out the Assembly's policy on access to information was presented as the Assembly AGM. It stated that working papers, such as those for TAG, were not available as public documents. JB suggested marking future TAG papers which were not in the public domain. MT agreed to consider this with other members of the Assembly Secretariat.

MT

#### **4. Sustainable Distribution**

**4.1** JG introduced the paper on sustainable distribution. It covers an overview of the issues on the movement of goods through and within the region, with advice on the issues and the development of policies for the region to be considered by the RTS.

**4.2** MT outlined the next stages of the work, which would involve circulating the paper to a wider audience for comment and asked members to give some thought as to whom the paper could be sent to.

ALL

**4.3** A discussion took place on the paper and additional issues to be considered for inclusion in the paper were:

1. The potential for Short Sea Shipping;
2. Further expansion on the issues associated with the increase of e-commerce;
3. Distribution issues associated with rural areas;
4. Expansion on the issues of transporting freight by air and access to airports for freight goods;
5. To include a section on reducing the need to travel/localisation.

JG

#### **5. Strategic Networks**

**5.1** MT introduced two papers on feedback from the brainstorming session held in June for users of the transport system and the Panel of Experts seminar held in July. He advised that the next stage was to pull together the key issues and develop a paper for a wider circulation. Members of TAG were asked to feed back any issues they considered should be covered in the paper.

**5.2** Comments made were:

1. There is the potential to become restrictive in being defined by networks already in place and not considering what the networks should be.
2. The strategic network needs a fundamental rethink and to ask the question "What do South East authorities and organisations want for the strategic networks in the South East?";
3. Different Local Authorities have different definitions of networks;
4. The focus initially should be on maximising efficiency and then looking to additional infrastructure;

5.3 JE, PH and PB volunteered to assist in taking the strategic networks forward.

MT, JE,  
PH, PB

## 6. Airports

6.1 CMcK introduced the paper on Airports. The Government White Paper on Aviation is anticipated for the end of 2002 and will be preceded by the decision on Heathrow Terminal 5. The SERAS consultation will take place in early 2002 and it is likely that plans for new airports or new runways will be revealed. CMcK asked TAG members their views on what the South East should be looking to feed into the consultation process.

6.2 Members agreed that in advance of SERAS reporting, the Working Group needs to provide the Assembly with advice on the pre-conditions for growth at the South East airports. The issues raised were:

1. Where growth would be most likely to be accommodated;
2. What level of growth would be acceptable;
3. Surface Access, including good rail connections;
4. Freight and the role of air travel in lifting goods;
5. The dissemination of good practice for the growth of air travel.

6.3 CMcK also identified the need for a Pan-regional perspective on airports and the need to co-ordinate with other Regional Planning Bodies views, particularly in the wider South East, in due course.

CMcK

## 7. Update on Work Groups

7.1 LG provided a brief update on all the work streams.

*Objectives* – Completed.

*Strategic Networks* – Discussed at meeting.

*Sustainable Distribution* – Discussed at meeting.

*Ports* – Progress as paper circulated.

*Airports* – Discussed at meeting.

*Managing Travel Demand* – MT to circulate a brief by end of July.

*Targets and Monitoring* – Work by consultants is continuing and work is being linked to the wider monitoring work for RPG.

*Investment Priorities* – This will be updated in more depth at the next meeting.

*Appraisal* – Work on assessing options for appraisal methods continues.

MT

7.2 A list of the work groups and members of them will be circulated.

MT

## 8. Update on the Studies

8.1 The contents of the paper were noted. LG provided feedback on the topic workshops completed as part of the South Coast study.

8.2 MT noted the importance of the London to South Midlands MMS and its linkages with the Milton Keynes Growth Study.

## 9. Update on Rail Issues

9.1 LW was unable to attend the meeting at short notice.

*Following the meeting, LW provided the following points to be brought to members attention:*

1. *Draft Direction and Guidance for the SRA have been published by the DTLR on 29 June. The consultation period for comments n this will run until 21 September;*
2. *The Passenger Rail Franchising Policy – draft statement was published on 16 July. Comments on this to be received by the SRA by 21 September.*

*LW would encourage local and regional bodies to respond to both of these documents.*

3. *The SRA Annual Report was published on 16 July and is available on their website.*

**10. Any Other Business**

**10.1** DC inquired on the timetable for the RTS. MT advised the programme was being revised to accommodate the emerging outputs from the MMS's, which will form an important input into the RTS. Once the programme has been revised, MT will circulate the new timetable to all TAG members.

**10.2** The meeting closed at 17.15.

**MT**

**Next Meetings:**

Date: 5 September 2001  
Time: 14.30 – 17.30  
Venue: DTLR Ashdown House, London. Room 6b, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Date: 24 October 2001  
Time: 14.30 – 17.30  
Venue: DTLR, Ashdown House, London. Room 6b, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor