



**12.30-14.00 29 January 2015**

**Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament**

**Chair: Sarah Boyack MSP**

## **Sustainable Transport**

### **Meeting Note**

#### **1. Attendees**

A provisional list of attendees is attached to the end of this note. If you attended and are not shown on the list, please email Gavin Donoghue at [gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com](mailto:gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com).

#### **2. Introduction and approval of minutes from the last meeting**

Sarah Boyack MSP welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were any corrections to the previous meeting's minutes.

Bill Rodger proposed an amendment to the minutes which was accepted and actioned by the Secretariat.

Bill Rodger then proposed, and Nigel Holmes seconded, that the minutes represented an accurate description of the previous meeting of 11 December.

Sarah Boyack MSP then introduced the speakers, noting that it was an opportune time to discuss sustainable transport as the recently re-elected Governor of California, Jerry Brown, had campaigned on the issue of increasing electric cars and charging points.

#### **3. Presentation: *Sustainable Transport in Scotland: an overview* – Neil Langhorn, Sustainable & Active Transport Team, Transport Scotland**

Neil gave an overview of the Scottish Government's sustainable transport policies in order to set the scene for the forthcoming presentations and discussed how transport was a significant chunk of Scotland's CO2 emissions (24%).

Neil went on to show how transport emissions were coming down from 2007 and the changing proportion of emissions from different parts of the transport sector with RPP2 focusing on four specific areas; decarbonising vehicles; sustainable communities; business engagement and road network efficiencies.

Neil then set out what the government could do in terms of: public sector leadership; outreach and education; mobilising key stakeholders; strategic investments and incentives and provided examples of actions in each.

#### **4. Presentation: *Switched On Scotland: A Roadmap to Widespread Adoption of Plug-in Vehicles* – Dr David Beeton, E-cosse**

David opened by discussing the Scottish Government's target for almost complete decarbonisation of the transport sector by 2050 and media coverage this had gained - but said there had been too big a focus on CO2 emissions instead of air pollution.

David then discussed Scotland's Roadmap for transport and that low-carbon technologies should not be competing with one another as we will need to use all of them to a greater or lesser extent. He also pointed out that there are more electric vehicles in car clubs in Scotland than the rest of the UK.

In the future, there will be more call for Ultra Low Emission Zones; car sharing; integrated urban intelligence and managed charging. He closed by stating that transformation is vital, needs integrated and comprehensive actions and will require the realisation of the full potential of electric vehicles.

#### **5. Presentation: *hydrogen & fuel cell vehicle opportunities with renewables*- Dr Nigel Holmes, SHFCA**

Nigel spoke about the amount of progress there had been in the last three years, including at the All Energy event in 2012 and the arrival of Hydrogen Fuel Cell buses in Aberdeen.

He gave an overview of how hydrogen transport fits in with the energy trilemma and energy security concerns before discussing the practicalities of extracting hydrogen through electrolysis and using renewable electricity for this purpose. He then gave a number of examples of projects in Scotland currently using hydrogen technology.

Nigel then discussed the transport trilemma and why hydrogen fuel cells were able to address this, before discussing what fuel cells are and how they work and giving a number of examples of new busses and cars that are using this technology.

In summary, Nigel said that hydrogen could help maximise renewables; helps lower CO2 emissions; supports low carbon innovation and expertise; deals with the energy and transport trilemma and could develop a local supply chain in Scotland.

#### **6. Questions**

A range of questions were directed at the panel (please note that the intention of this meeting note is not to record a verbatim account of the meeting). Questions posed to the panel included:

- Patrick Harvie MSP asked whether the Transport Scotland slides were based on projections or real figures
  - Neil Langhorn stated that they were predictions
- Paul Gill, ESS, made the point that transport pollution in certain areas was not necessarily caused by, or the fault of, those who live in those areas

- Paul Gill, ESS, asked Nigel Holmes whether there were range extenders for passenger electric vehicles as his electric vehicle had broken down
  - Nigel Holmes said that there were not many to a commercial extent and that most are purely hydrogen technology
- Neil Philips, Positive Solutions, stated that we need more emphasis on using renewable energy
  - Nigel Holmes made the point that the energy generated from renewables needs to be captured
  - David Beeton stated that you need electric vehicles to level off the demand curve for electricity
- Patrick Harvie MSP asked if an issue was that there may not be the required infrastructure throughout the rest of the UK for electric vehicles
  - David Beeton stated that 99% of journeys are currently achievable in an electric vehicle
  - Nigel Holmes made the point that transport is demand-led so technology needs to meet the demand to increase uptake
- Bill Rodger made the point that there is great uncertainty about biofuels and asked what can Scotland do in terms of urban planning.
- Tariq Muneer stated that he had only ever had positive experiences from the electric vehicles he and his colleagues have used
- Dave Gunn stated that charging points were often unreliable and that this is an area where Scotland could lead the way
- Sarah Boyack MSP then made the point that we didn't talk about trains and might need a session on urban and rural transport; ownership models and active transport.

## 8. Date and Topic of Next Meeting

Sarah Boyack MSP then announced that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 12 March between 12.30pm and 2.00pm in Committee Room 2 and will be on the topic of fuel poverty. It will be held jointly with the CPG on Housing.

## 9. AOB

Sarah Boyack MSP put on record thanks to Elizabeth Leighton, from the Energy Saving Trust, who has provided Secretariat support for meetings on energy efficiency over the previous year while her colleague, Elaine Waterson, has been on maternity leave.

Sarah stated that Elaine has now returned from maternity leave and, although not able to join us that day, will be returning to her role providing the secretariat support for the Group from now on.

For suggestions for correction of this note and to request copies of some of the presentations, please contact the secretariat, Gavin Donoghue ([gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com](mailto:gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com)).

## 9. Attendees

First Name	Surname
David	Beeton
Colin	Campbell
Aisling	Doyle
Tracey	Exton

Declan	Finney
Karen	Freel
Paul	Gill
Dave	Gunn
Patrick	Harvie MSP
Derek	Halden
Caroline	Hickling
Nigel	Holmes
Neil	Langhorn
John	Maclean
Paul	McCorkell
Iain	McLellan
Ashleigh	McLennan
Mia	McMillan
Clare	McTigue
Liz	Meenagh
Emma	Megaughin
Beatrice	Morrice
Tariq	Muneer
Ian	Murdoch
Gordon	Patterson
Rod	Penn
Neil	Philips
John	Pinkard
Graham	Provest
Bill	Rodger
Lorna	Ross
Stephen	Sheridan
Keith	Stark
Roland	Stiven
Eileen	Strathdee
Rebekah	Strong
John	Taylor
Zac	Tuck
Paul	Wilkinson
Stephen	Young