

Minutes of the Cross-Party Group on Aviation

Date: 02 December 2020

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Venue: Virtual Meeting – MS Teams / Join by phone

MSPs attendees:

David Stewart – Co-convenor

John Scott MSP – Co-Convenor

Beatrice Wishart MSP

Maurice Corry - MSP

Non-MSPs attendees:

Scott Hammond – Shetland Space Centre

Mick O'Connor – Prestwick Spaceport

Peter Young – Scottish Space Leadership Council

Richard Osborne – AstroAgency

Nigel Kellett – Axon' Cable

Georgina Smith – Thales UK

Kim McCann – PA Consulting

Stephen Small – Axon' Cable

Grant Campbell – Brodies

Simon Nicholson – Protronix

Stewart McKinlay – University of Strathclyde

Jeff Fyfe – W.L. Gore & Associates

Michael Brown – Skylands Aviation

Daniel Smith – AstroAgency

Tim Osborne – Belcan

David Love – Altran

Ken Doig – BAE Systems

Mark Taylor – Air Service Training

Sean McGovern – Newton Aerospace Management

Gordon Mather – KRG Engineering Services

Ramesh Rajoo – KRG Engineering Services

Andrew Caughey – Atkins

Nick Bloomfield – Spire

Louise Urquhart – Mott Macdonald

Angela Mathis – ThinkTank Maths

Gary Cobb – HIAL

Henk van Klaveren – AOA

Janice Hogarth – SPAA

Andy Evans – Aerossurance

Gordon Bingham – Global Trek Aviation

Sheena MacKenzie – University of Strathclyde

John Innes – Leonardo

Marco Tammaro – Teledyne

Lynda McVay – Leonardo

Iain Rodger – GE Aviation

Joe Hope – Belcan

Steve Kilpatrick – Belcan

Peter Carroll – Glasgow Airport

Julie Cromarty – HITRANS
Graeme Bell – HIAL
Jordan Lindsay – Mage Control Systems
Sarah Burns – University of Strathclyde
Mark Tang – Raytheon UK
Ian Clarke – NATS
Sandy Findlay – ABGi UK
David McColm – Global Trek Aviation
Keith Grandison – ADS Scotland
Konrad Zadecki – ADS Scotland

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and apologies

David Stewart MSP welcomed everybody to the virtual Cross-Party Group on Aviation. The session has also been joined by John Scott MSP, Beatrice Wishart MSP, Maurice Corry MSP, and apologies from Stewart Stevenson MSP

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of minutes from previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no changes

Agenda Item 3 – Scotland's space sector - an update

Scott Hammond – Shetland Space Centre gave a presentation on Launch Site Project Update

Key points:

1. Planning Approval - Environmental Impact Analysis ongoing with publication on December '20
2. Air Space Change: 1A and B completed, 2A Gateway due 28 Aug 20, four more gateways thereafter - currently on pause at request of CAA
3. Maritime Navigation Risk Assessment: Local one completed May 20 to allow for sub orbital launches, international one to be part of Spaceport license application.
4. Regulations and licensing: Consultation view and response submitted with a view of more work to make the business and that the UK and Scotland are open for business
5. Pathfinder Launch – Lockheed Martin and SSC
 - KVL Pathfinder Grant novated 23 Oct 20
 - LM and SSC have been working closely since Oct 2019
 - TAA, agreement with LM to allow for sensitive data to pass to SSC
 - LM will not teach us how to launch rockets
 - Need to work with Govt agencies, UKSA and CAA
 - First rocket launch from the UK cannot be the pathfinder orbital launch - Need for development plan for all stakeholders to understand their roles and responsibilities.
 - First Launch Q2 2022
 - SSC responsible for and working on range solution

Mick O'Connor – Programme Director of Prestwick Spaceport gave a presentation on Prestwick Spaceport

Key points:

1. Beyond Launch – Work in Prestwick is not just about Spaceport – is much wider than that in terms of setting Prestwick as premier space location in the UK – for space activities
2. Spaceport will be for horizontal launch
3. Currently in RIBA Stage 1; evaluating CONOPS, airspace policy, mission system architecture
4. Working with number of stakeholders including other Spaceports as part of the UK Spaceport Alliance.
5. Recent announcement of Ayrshire Growth Deal gives access to £80M of funding to:
 - Establish Spaceport infrastructure.
 - Create an Aerospace and Space Innovation Centre.
 - Build commercial workspace.
 - Construct new road infrastructure.
6. Prize: to create 4000 new jobs by 2035
7. Horizontal solution: daring to dream: Air Launch – 2023, Human Space Flight – 2028, Hypersonic Flight - 2035

Peter Young – SSLC gave a presentation on Overview of the Space Sector

Key points:

1. The Scottish Space Cluster 2020:
£254M – Total income 2017/18 with GVA added: £880M value to the Scottish economy, employing 8000 people across the sector in Scotland. Growing sector – approx. 12% annual growth.
2. Breakdown of the sector in terms of the elements of it:
 - Small Satellite Industry
 - Launch Services
 - Downstream Industry
 - Launch Vehicle
 - The Future – New Applications / Non-Traditional Payloads
3. Scottish Space Leadership Council overview:
Aim: To form a community of Scottish businesses involved in commercial space to increase business opportunities, efficiencies, effectiveness, and economic impact through collaboration, partnering and mutual support.
Aspirations : To raise the profile of Scotland as the home of *Agile Space*; To become a leading global destination for access space and space services or to locate/ establish their businesses in a supportive environment for the growth and success of commercial space ventures; to work collectively and with partners including investment community, academia and Government to foster such an environment.

Richard Osborne from AstroAgency gave a presentation, a case study on opportunities in the sector

AstroAgency has established itself as the global leader in strategic marketing for the space sector, providing innovative companies with brand building strategies informed by market intelligence to enable them to thrive in the new commercial space market. The first space focused marketing agency in the UK

David Stewart MSP thanked Scott Hammond, Mick O'Connor and Richard Osborne for their presentations and open session to question.

John Scott MSP: Question around sell of Glasgow Prestwick Airport and worries around that and Investment needed to bring the airport to launch ready capability?

Mick O'Connor Answer re: sell. There is currently nothing that compels new buyer to the spaceport. Investment needed: £23M – creation of the spaceport budget

Question: Gordon Bingham: Global Trek Aviation: Has Prestwick been awarded a licence for Spaceport?

Mick O'Connor Answer: licence have been awarded however legislation hasn't been enacted

Question from Beatrice Wishart MSP re: Potential for the space tourism

Answer - Scott Hammond: there is a huge amount of possibilities and it's been part of our economic impact analysis of the increase in footfall tourism in Shetland. Planning on having at least 1k vehicles to do that first launch. Host of different initiatives so people can come up and see how the Spaceport operates.

Agenda Item 4 – Any other issues affecting the aviation and sectors

Janice Hogarth from SPAA asked the question about Global Taskforce – Test and Release and adoption by the Scottish Government

Answer: Maurice Corry MSP: Just after the meeting with Glasgow Airport. This afternoon Glasgow Airport having a deep discussion meeting with Health Officials in the Scottish Government to try and get this testing sorted out in the airport. Still very much in massive push from all the airports and MSP on board as well.

The meeting ends.