Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership
January 2014 Newsletter

This is the second newsletter for the 2013/14 programme and has been developed to inform you of the projects being delivered by the Partnership during Year 9. They include:

Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS)

Registrations to the scheme have already gained momentum with 67 companies in the North East region now registered to FORS. Registrations can be completed in five minutes at www.fors-online.org.uk.

Twelve companies in the area are now bronze accredited. The Partnership would like to thank those companies for their hard work in achieving this prestigious award. This sets the standard that we would like other operators to aspire to.

FORS bronze assessments are fully funded by the Partnership and this will continue in programme year 2013-14. Please apply as soon as possible to ensure you receive your audits at no cost to your organisation.

As FORS members you have access to a range of exclusive benefits and discounts that offer real competitive advantage. Full details of these benefits can be found on the FORS website (www.fors-online.org.uk)

A major benefit of FORS is the JAUPt certified Practitioner workshops (DCPC). The Partnership has delivered 14 workshops over a seven day period with another 10 workshops still available until the end of March.

The remaining workshops are shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/02/14</td>
<td>3 Managing driver fitness and impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Managing driver assessment and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/03/14</td>
<td>5 Post-collision procedures and analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Safe and efficient fleet management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/03/14</td>
<td>7 Reducing fuel use and minimising environmental impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Minimising transport fines and charges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/03/14</td>
<td>9 Monitoring and measuring road fleet performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 Going for bronze</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To register your interest in attending the workshops (which have attracted lots of positive feedback from operators who have already attended) please go to: www.tandfworsworkshops.eventbrite.co.uk

The workshops have proved to be very successful generating a very good attendance and much informed discussion and sharing of good practice.
An added benefit from attending the workshops, other than giving DCPC accreditation, is the certified FORS Practitioner award. The certificate is presented to anyone who has attended nine of the workshops and have gained their company the bronze accreditation. To date 12 workshop attendees have completed the full suite of FORS workshops and have been awarded FORS Practitioner certificates.

Bronze accredited members will also be encouraged to progress to the Silver and Gold accreditation.

Don't forget that audits and workshops are currently fully-funded!

Safe Urban Driving

The Partnership offered the DCPC registered course to drivers whose companies were registered on the FORS scheme. The course was delivered on the 3rd October 2013 and is designed to raise the HGV driver's awareness of the vulnerable road user in shared road space.

The content of the course comprises a 3.5 hour classroom session which outlines potential hazards involving vulnerable road users, with the rest of the day comprising a practical cycling session on urban roads.

The feedback from the course has been very positive, both on the quality of the classroom training and especially the practical cycle training in the depot and on the road.

The Partnership will consult with local authorities to make FORS accreditation a contractual prerequisite in procurement systems, in line with practice in London. This will help businesses ensure that their suppliers are operating legally and as efficiently as possible.

Operators who deliver within or into the region and who are interested in taking advantage of this scheme, should visit www.fors-online.org.uk or contact Michael Page direct for further details.
The Partnership is planning to offer further Safe urban Driving Courses during 2014, in association with the Go Smarter to Work programme - please see: http://www.gosmarter.co.uk/work and watch out for publicity announcing the dates and venues of future courses.

Mapping

The current suite of 25 maps hosted on the Partnership website has been reviewed to maintain the accuracy of the information and locations displayed. The site visit was carried out to ensure the accuracy of buildings and companies within each location.

The master area has been updated accordingly with the details gathered during the site visits.

Freight on Rail

The Rail Partner Group meets every six months with attendance still as strong as ever from organisations in the rail industry.

The latest meeting was kindly hosted by Newrail at the Great North Museum, Newcastle on 26th November 2013. During the meeting:

- Port of Blyth stated their aspirations for 22 train slots per week and colleagues from Northumberland County Council and Network Rail discussed future proposals for development of the Ashington, Blyth and Tyne line.
- Drax power station has commissioned new 70 tonne capacity wagons for transporting biomass from Port of Tyne to the power station. Network Rail is in the process of amending the signalling method to improve capacity at the port.
- It was stated that the Port of Sunderland was moving into the offshore and renewable sectors with success.
- UK Coal rail interests stated that coal is currently extracted from the Butterwell and Potland Burn sites and transported to Drax, Trent Valley and other power stations.

The Partnership is discussing with Newrail future plans for collaboration and sharing of knowledge, including assistance in the evaluation of student projects related to freight movement.

Impact of Longer Semi-trailers on Road Infrastructure

The DfT trial of longer semi-trailers is now well into the 10 year trial period.

The Partnership is currently engaging with operators that transport goods in Tyne and Wear to determine what the impact of the Longer Semi-Trailer trial has been.

We are employing a number of methods to canvass opinions including e-surveys and telephone consultations. We will look to report the results of the research by the summer.

Multi-Modal Carbon Calculator (MMCC)

Case studies are being developed in response to feedback received from the Rail Partner Group. It has been suggested there could be scope for the tool to indicate where distances made a particular mode economic (e.g. over 200 miles for rail).
Mode is dictated by what the customers want and in the coal industry customers (e.g. power stations) want their coal delivered by rail.

**Promoting the Partnership**

**Twitter**

To be able to keep followers of the Tyne and Wear Partnership up to date and have instant information on the Partnership, we have set up a bespoke twitter account. All work undertaken by the Partnership, newsflashes and details of meetings, will be tweeted to promote the Partnership. Simply follow: @TyneandWearFP

**Rifle Conference**

The Partnership was invited to attend the Rifle Conference held in the Great North Museum.

RiFLE stands for Rail Freight and Logistics Curriculum Development project funded under the ERASMUS programme of the European Commission. The project started in October 2010 and involved four partners from the UK, NewRail (Newcastle University); Rome, University of Rome "Sapienza"; Germany, University of Applied Science in Ingolstadt and Bulgaria, Todor Kableshkov Higher School of Transport.

**Love Cycling, Go Dutch Conference**

This conference was one of a series of 'Love Cycling, Go Dutch' conferences, previous venues being Bristol, London, Edinburgh and Manchester in 2012 and Birmingham in 2013.

The conference took place on 5th November 2013 in the Banqueting Hall of Newcastle Civic Centre.

The conference was designed for decision-makers and practitioners in Newcastle (and its wider economic hinterland) to debate how cycling can have a role at the heart of healthy and wealthy cities. The conference outcomes were to inform, inspire and lead to further collaboration with the Netherlands.

Key topics in the plenary sessions and workshops included:

- How the Netherlands become a cycling nation with the highest cycling levels in the world:
- Why cycling is good for the economy by contributing to liveable cities and neighbourhoods:
- What is sustainable safety? And what we can learn about road safety from the Dutch?
- How to create strategic cycling routes and build cycle-friendly new developments:
- The huge health benefits of everyday cycling a reason in itself to invest in quality cycling infrastructure:

One of the practical outcomes of the conference was to progress the redesign of a local junction or area based on Dutch design principles.

**C-LIEGE**

The Clean Last mile transport and logistics management for smart and Efficient local Governments in Europe (C-LIEGE) project was an exciting trans-European project that aimed to showcase good practice and provide a helping hand for all European cities striving to deliver cleaner and more sustainable urban freight transport.

An innovative set of integrated solutions and push-and-pull demand-oriented measures were tested at seven sites across Europe, including Newcastle. The Freight Partnership provided advice to Newcastle to help them outline to their European partners the best ways to establish Freight Quality Partnerships in their own cities. We also shared details of our good practice initiatives, such as FORS.

The project ended in November 2013 with a final Conference aimed at sharing the knowledge learnt with other towns and cities to help address the challenges and opportunities for sustainable freight movement across Europe.
Get Involved

The Partnership undertakes a variety of projects every year and if you would like to get involved with the Partnership or simply share your ideas, you are welcome to come along to the next meeting which is scheduled for 11th March 2014 at South Shields Town Hall. Reception is at 10:00 for teas and coffees with a 10:30 start.

For more information please contact Michael Page by email on: michael.page@aecom.com or by Tel: 0191 224 6500.

Urban Freight Conference 11/12 June

The University of Newcastle are holding a major conference on urban freight this summer, starting on the afternoon of 11th June and then all day on 12th June. The Freight Partnership hopes to be present and contribute to the conference which will be free to attend and will emphasise interactive knowledge exchange rather than platform presentations.

More details will be provided as the event draws nearer but we would encourage you to note the date in your diary.