

**North East Freight Partnership****Date Held****5th September 2018****Committee Room 6****Sunderland Civic Centre****List of Attendees and Organisation**

Morag White	WSP
Jim French	PD Ports
Paul Davison	AECOM
Michael Page	AECOM
Matt Lott	AECOM
Gary Powell	Bridgestone Tyres
Andrew Binns	Highways Agency
Mark Foster	Sunderland City Council
Michelle Sinclair	Sunderland City Council
Andrew Briggs	Andrew Briggs
Ann Wilson	Tees Valley Combined Authority
Gordon Scott	Nissan
Andrew Dorrian	North East Combined Authority
Kate Wilson	NWG
Keith Owen	NGN
Tony Walker	NECTAR
Darren Lomax	RHA
Bob Forster	Nicholsons Group

Apologies

Andrew Carmichael	SENRUG
Dr. Alireza Shokri	Northumbria University
John Bourn	North East Combined Authority
Tom Zunder	New Rail
Steve Bird	AG Barr
James Turnbull	Durham County Council
Dr Graeme Heron	Newcastle University
Roy Kaybourn	Stockton College
John Cram	North Tyneside Council
Marin Marinov	Newrail
Ken Devereux	DevereuxTransport
David Pentland	South Tyneside
Mike Hogg	RFG
P Walker	Railfuture NE
Walter Cartright	DB Schenker
John Holwell	Independent

Ian Johnson

PD Ports

Item Agenda 2: Introductions and Apologies

Paul Davison the chair welcomed all the delegates to the meeting, he asked the delegates to introduce themselves to those who were attending for the first time.

The apologies were read out of those not attending the meeting due to other commitments.

Item Agenda 2: Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were discussed, reviewed and agreed. It was highlighted that a couple of the attendees in the June meeting had errors in their names, these have been rectified.

Item Agenda 3: Lorry Parking in the Northeast

Gordon Scott of Nissan works in logistics receiving and distributing freight all over Europe. He highlighted lorry parking as a national issue but his main concern is in Sunderland and he would like support from the NEFP.

There is a local impact around Nissan which is the largest manufacturing site in the region, served by 450 suppliers.

A significant issue for Nissan is the inadequate space for HGV parking in the North East, which encourages illegal and unsafe parking. This can have a negative impact on local businesses and residents and can lead to incidents of human fouling and illegal parking in car parks and retail parks.

Gordon noted that changes brought in by the DVSA, stating drivers cannot spend the weekend in laybys have led to further demand for dedicated formal parking facilities.

Problems can also occur when drivers arrive outside their allotted time windows and have to park in areas waiting for their slot. Nissan turn away drivers who do not hit their time slot.

It was said by the group that local companies in the region park trucks illegally, however, haulage companies should take the initiative and allow other company vehicles to park in their yards. Unfortunately this may impact on insurance for the depot. It is even more important now that laybys have been closed in Yorkshire in conjunction with Local Authorities and Highways England.

It was suggested that HGVs should be allowed to park at Motorway Service Areas in coach areas later in the evening, increasing capacity.

Agenda Item 4: Moving On: What will the Future of Transport look like

Kate Wilson, Fleet Manager at Northumbrian Water Group talked about an event held in the summer by the organisation at Newcastle racecourse.

This innovation festival was attended by 510 of the world's leading businesses and most innovative minds gathered and worked together for the five-day-event in order to tackle 13 major social and

environmental challenges.

There was a 'Transport Sprint' at the event, where solutions were discussed in relation to the movement of goods.

She talked about Hyperloop, autonomous vehicles and alternative fuels. It was felt that the development of Hydrogen in vehicles is feasible, however it is known that there is currently not the infrastructure to support its development.

The NWG operates 720 cars, 1,500 vehicles (mainly plant) and 100 HGVs. They have electric vehicles in Keilder as a response to the environmental impact and to the local community.

Keith Owens from the Northern Gas Network is responsible for gas supply from Berwick to Leeds. The main focus is the Customer Energy Solutions strategy which aims to work with stakeholders to create and implement customer focussed energy solutions.

He said Toyota is investigating H₂ in their integral vision customer research centre.

NGN have a £10m project to look at possibilities to reduce costs and is considering the following aspects of the initiative:

- Does H₂ flow through pipes without leeching through?
- Delivering gas as a transport fuel
- Customer demand
- Potential fuelling network

Keith stated that there is clearly a demand from transport for CNG by 2021 and 5 locations have been identified to dispense CNG, including Team Valley.

It is planned to hold a conference in November to invite groups to discuss viability of these elements.

It was asked if they were looking at any other locations. It was suggested that Teesside and Alstran have potential for rail when considering H₂ driven trains and that the maritime sector be considered.

Agenda Item 5: Highways England Tyre Debris Survey Results

Gary Powell from Bridgestone Tyres talked about their tyre debris study which was conducted over a period of 3 years.

He showed a short video of the impact of shedding tyres on the network.

The study analysed 1,000 tyre fragments, it was noted that 56% of tyre failure was caused from depot debris. Other causes were found to be tyre inflation and tyre condition. The samples collected were focussed on the Midlands (M1 and M6) with liaison with Highways England. 40 to 60 different samples were taken at each site for analysis.

Through the study it has been seen that re-tread (RTD) tyres are just as reliable as new tyres. The perception of RTD tyres can be negative, even though there is a safety and environmental case as there is a difficulty in disposing of old casing as they have to be burned and not disposed of in landfill.

Agenda Item 6: Update on research looking into the impact of Brexit on the North East's Freight and Logistics sector

Matt Lott talked to the group about the methodology for the research on the impact Brexit may have on the haulage industry.

A literature review looked at what actions could be taken if there if there was a hard or free border. The impact on the Customs and border controls, how imports and exports may be affected. The review took in the shortage of UK drivers and how Brexit may affect the non-UK drivers.

Matt talked about the statistics showing the impact to imports and exports.

He highlighted a couple of case studies on the possible impact of Brexit. These included Nissan who have the ultimate option of moving abroad due to high costs of imports from Europe and globally (however currently they are still investing in the North East). Another study of Sage showed no adverse effects and therefore no change would occur. The final case study was Hargreaves who has said that there has been a downturn in demand on the lead up to Brexit.

In summary, Matt discussed the negative impacts for the North East, including delays at border control nationally and the reliance on trade with the EU. He also highlighted the potential for companies to move abroad creating a downturn in the economy.

The research produced some recommendations to have a custom clearance and support for international traders, with potential for free trade ports as well as work with the Chamber of Commerce to lobby Government to invest in HGV driver training for all ages.

Agenda Item 7: Overview of forthcoming North East Freight Partnerships Activities 2018-2019

Unfortunately there was not enough time to outline the progress made over the course of the project however Paul Davison announced the dates of the forthcoming meetings:

NEFP skills working group – 24th September to be held at 11:00 in St Marys at the AECOM offices on Newcastle quayside.

NEFP Rail Partner Group – 16th October to be held at Lynefield Park, Lynemouth

North East Water Freight – February 6th at the National Glass Centre, Sunderland

Agenda Item 8: Any other Business

Paul Davison thanked all attendees for their attendance and contribution to the Partnership.

Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will occur in December 2018 or January 2019, location TBC.