Meeting Note: OREF Forum 30/11/2021

The following slides present a summary of key points made during the OREF meeting on Tuesday 30th November 2021

Comments from the message board and noted during the meeting have been categorised into groups by theme or mode

- **Decarbonisation**
- **Active Travel**
- **Public Transport and other options**
- **Electric Vehicles**
- **Aviation**
- **Ferries**
- **General**

SYSTRA

Decarbonisation

- *Decarbonisation front and centre. All OIC staff who source transport goods and services should have a requirement to purchase lowest carbon input options.*

- *What are the carbon implications of this agenda? printed in BOLD AND LARGE TYPE for EVERY PUBLIC SECTOR MEETING!*

- *It is a matter of risk management for the strategy to look beyond diesel.*

- *Strategy, Design and Invest now for needing 50% less fuel to serve 50% more quality.*

- *The Heriot-Watt Transition Lab can provide modelling for transition engineering.*

- *Remember that last century when the current system was conceived - there was NO INTERNET, No computers. No Apps*

- *People access activities and the way retailers access customers... When you look at the whole system, you can see that low carbon energy is a community attribute, not just a vehicle choice.*

- *Every infrastructural action now needs to be carbon neutral from the beginning, from its creation ... and certainly NOT carbon counted over its lifetime (which is an absolute cop out).*

- *Fossil Fuels need to be ended and the public sector should commit to this now.*

- *Net Zero design now - why not?*

Active Travel

- *Walking and cycling in the rural sphere on Mainland Orkney is a nightmare.*

- *Walking along the verges is dangerous.*

- *We do need more cycleways to get across the county. It is bloody dangerous at the moment.*

- *Integrated bike hire with internal ferry ticket.*

- *No cycle lanes on main roads.*

- *Not many places to park bikes in Kirkwall.*

- *Provision of bicycles could alleviate capacity issues on ferries in the summer months if applied to islands.*

- *An out of town cycle and footpath network.*

- *More footpaths and cycleways.*

- *Cycleway Stromness to Kirkwall.*

- *We need footpaths.*

- *We need more cycleways.*

- *Integrated bike hire with internal ferry ticket.*

- *Have bikes (and cars) available at ferry terminals on the mainland and islands - so you don't have to take a car on the ferry.*

- *Scheme similar to Boris Bikes in London for mainland and islands.*

- *Every major route should have a cycle path beside it.*

SYSTRA

Public Transport

- *Have a fully integrated public transport system.*

- *Buses and ferries are quite well linked up for timetable. Bus and airport not well linked, not easy to get to early flights by public transport.*

- *X1 works well apart from when you want to go to the airport - the interchange of services doesn't work.*

- *Why do we have such large busses running empty most of the time on set routes? Consider smaller ones which can be "called" off route.*

- *Think beyond bus to appropriately sized, on demand transport.. it really isn't rocket science!*

- *Reduce risk and harm to road users and wildlife. Set goals to injuries and deaths.*

- *Need to have regular access to busses to make them viable as an option to private vehicles.*

- *Increase bus frequencies where we can. I have found out that the bus pass system works really well (yes I know it is hard to believe that I am old enough!).*

- *Bus route frequency needs to be greatly increased. Some times there can be 2 hour plus wait.*

- *Lack of bus information. It has got better due to the Stagecoach APP, but shouldn't the town centre bus stops have information to show the next bus as this also normalises the bus as a valid means of transport.*

- *The airport bus leaving before passengers get out of the terminal. Why not get passengers to let the steward(ess) know that you need the bus and it could then be held until people get a chance to collect their luggage.*

And Other Options

- *Digital Demand Response Transport - mixed transport bus / uber style / active transport mix of 'when you need it' transport system which might be underwritten by income derived from opening the same network to use by visitors.*

- *A request system where people need to get somewhere and the transport service provides a solution - uber style.*

- *Demand responsive system replaces car ownership.*

- *Perhaps tied in with council tax payments, residents get some credits per month for using a new transport system: need money to somehow underwrite equitable access to a new transport system.*

- *Increase Co Wheels capacity.*

- *Co wheels: could be lower cost and cars could be positioned on islands.*

- *Expand the car clubs, particularly on isles and at Orkney mainland ferry sites for Islanders coming onto Mainland Orkney.*

- *Have (bikes and) cars available at ferry terminals on the mainland and islands - so you don't have to take a car on the ferry.*

- *Opportunity to create car pooling.*

- *Car clubs if fully developed could work really well on the mainland and isles.*

- *Need to have all other measures developed before new ferries are built: bikes, car pools, EVs, etc on islands.*

Electric Vehicles

- *Key issue with EVs is charging when off of Orkney on a trip south. We need many more faster chargers when not in Orkney 150-350kW.*

- *Easy Long range EV hire for going South. This allows people to be comfortable with having a low to mid range island car. Reflex is doing something like this.*

- *Segment EV use and plan for each to work together. 1. Charge at night where you can. 2. Charge at work if needed. 3. Public charging where necessary.*

- *We have chargers for electric buses but no EV buses.*

- *Poverty vs decarbonisation: reposition 1st generation electric vehicles. It could be 20 years to work through remaining petrol/diesel cars and some time before electric vehicles are cascaded.*

- *Need charging points on isles as currently cant charge in many of the outer isles which means tourists need to take a petrol vehicle.*

- *Bring OIC and commercial organisations together to produce a strategy to enable a move to BEV or HEV vehicles of 7.5 tonnes and above. This would enable us to get ScotGov onside.*

- *Move older EVs out to the isles. The limited range would be adequate on some of the isles, so this could be a market for the older EVs. EVs also reduce the costs of access per mile, so this also helps with lower wages on isles.*

- *Cars will charge when you are asleep. Make charging ubiquitous at B&Bs and domestic accommodation where possible.*

- *Lower cost EV taxis.*

- *New developments must have cabling for charge points and access to regular, reliable public transport.*

SYSTRA

Aviation

- *Autonomy IS coming in air, sea and land.... probably in that order.*

- *Once the internal air service is carbon free then this system could make a dramatic difference to timings and accessibility for islands.*

- *Consider the role unmanned remote transport vessels could play in the near future.*

- *Air - best way to create inter island opportunities for islanders - as long as electric.*

- *Flight for Orkney similar to the new Shetland Dundee London (don't need to leave the plane) route.*

- *Electrify the internal flights. Synthetic gasoline for the intercounty.*

- *Unmanned vessels /drones for freight - this could change what is needed in terms of ferries*

- *Could develop new airport at Shapinsay*

- *Air - best way to create inter island opportunities for islanders - as long as electric*

Ferries (external)

- *External ferries need to be net zero - biggest polluter for Orkney.*

- *Capacity issues with salmon exports from Shetland and livestock season in Orkney, also capacity issues for visitors.*

- *External ferries sit for 12 hours in Aberdeen and could be better utilised.*

- *Consider whether Aberdeen ferries are viable from a carbon point of view.*

- *Promote more cabins over more sleeping pods.*

- *Connect Orkney to Inverness Bus route (using ferry) that aligns with other public transport like flights or night trains South.*

- *Interconnection with public transport with ferry terminals in Caithness is pretty poor*

- *Aberdeen/Shetland ferries will probably end up being ammonia fuelled. It is easier to handle than hydrogen (and will be made from hydrogen). It is unlikely that these routes will be able to be done with hydrogen or batteries.*

SYSTra

Ferries (internal)

- *No fossil fuels for the ferries.*

- *Electrify inter-isles ferries / Electrification of inter isle ferries is need. Current type of vessel is not optimal and need to move to catamarans.*

- *Hydrogen or Electric ferries are both viable. The main thing is to make sure they do not use Diesel or LNG as a fuel.*

- **Ferries are broken now and need to be replaced. LTS should set a date for ferry replacement.**

- *Am concerned about ferry replacement. Ferries must be able to last 30 years and important to consider all options and get it right first time.*

- *Are we sure that ferries need to last 35 years? Andrew Banks reckons his ferries cost 1/2 the cost and so one could replace them after 18 years twice?*

- *We need more internal ferries.*

- *People need to get to places quickly from the isles either to mainland or islands - faster ferries will enable isles people to commute anywhere.*

- *Unmanned vessels / drones for freight - this could change what is needed in terms of ferries*

- *We need more internal ferries with smaller crew sizes so that we can run point to point services to more locations and at least three services per week to N Ron and P Westray.*

- *Some time ago the suggestion of a fast passenger (decarbonised) only ferry with freight traveling more slowly could work.*

- *What is the deck space utilisation for the ferries?*

- *Need to have a gradual change - can we do something now that is part of the transition with regard to vessels. Does it need to be larger vessels - if we had smaller vessels they could travel more.*

Other comments

- *Fixed links to islands is a possible solution - Shapinsay with terminal at north, Stronsay terminal on westside, Eday and Westray linked. This should be considered.*

- *Free parking to stimulate the local economy.*

- *Constraint works - it takes analysis to figure out what the flow constraints would be, and it would take developing the booking in system.*

- *Geospatial data of the activity systems and goods analysis is an important precursor to a strategy. This is rather new but it means you are building the strategy around making the society and economy work.*

- *Shift Thinking - Last century the strategy was capacity, build it bigger. This century the strategy is need. Build what is needed.*

- **If there was no council to provide transport services what would happen? How would people behave? The market would deliver something that worked.**

- **What can we afford? It depends on what it is worth.**