

MINUTES OF SURVIVE GROUP EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER 2019

Present Rob Gifford – Chairman
Melanie Clarke - HE
Shaun Coole – RRRA
Chris Hoare - IVR
Steve Ives – AA
Damon Jowett - Direct Line / Green Flag
Derek Muir – RAC
Mick Puleston – AVRO
Andrew Reeve – Secretary

**ACTION
BY**

1 Apologies for Absence

Dean Hatton – NPCC
Simon Henrik - Direct Line / Green Flag
Pete Martin - HE

AR advised that due to work commitments, Mike Wilson had now nominated Pete Martin to represent HE on the Executive.

Unfortunately, Pete was unable to attend the meeting so RG extended a warm welcome to Melanie Clarke.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting.

3 Matters arising not covered on the Agenda

3.1 Four Nations Safety Group

AR advised that as very little progress had been made with this issue, it was now proposed that the Executive members identify any issues that affected the provision of roadside assistance in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

These could include operational issues (such as requesting and provision of assistance) and the use of different terminology etc.

Any such issues are to be submitted to AR for discussion at the next Executive meeting.

ALL

3.2 M6 Toll Road Safety Leaflet

AR advised that the M6 Toll safety leaflet had been published and that an electronic copy was now also available as a download from the SURVIVE website.

4 Working Group Reports

4.1 SURVIVE Working Group 1 (Practices and Procedures)

SI reported that a WG1 meeting had taken place on the 20th September and that the updated version of the Best Practice Guidelines was due to be published in 2020.

Several areas had already been identified as requiring updating, including where the motorist should be safely positioned, the impact of the GD 300 Standard and the increasing use of electric vehicles.

SI advised that the AA had recently revised their technician training to include a half day "SURVIVE" course. Consideration was now being given to offering this training course to the breakdown and recovery industry and that it included working on high speed dual carriageways as well as motorways.

Regarding the use of rear red flashing lights, SI reported that a suggestion had been put forward, and was under consideration, in having the rear brake lights illuminated continuously when working at the roadside. This would also include any additional brake lights positioned on the beacon bar.

A short discussion then took place regarding parking protocols and RG requested that WG1 carry out a review, to also include the use of lighting, with a view to updating the Best Practice Guidelines. It was agreed that the work carried out by TRL would also be considered if HE were in agreement.

WG1

SI also advised that a new towing trailer board was being developed which was battery operated as well as being cable connected to the towing vehicle. This would enable the technician to fix the trailer board to the casualty vehicle prior to moving from behind to in front of it in order to commence the towing process.

Regarding the proposed SURVIVE campaign to discourage working activities being carried out on the offside of vehicles, SI agreed to talk to SH to progress this issue. This campaign would also include the 'slow down – move over' advice.

SI / SH

4.2 SURVIVE Working Group 2 (Standards)

DM reported that as Mary Hill had now taken retirement from the RAC that he had taken over the Chair of WG2 for the time being.

A WG2 meeting was planned to take place in November with a view to the next update of PAS 43 taking place in 2020.

Regarding the possibility of PAS 43 becoming a full British Standard, it was agreed that DM and AR should start discussions with BSI to fully understand the advantages, disadvantages, long term benefits and cost implications etc. of such a potential move.

DM / AR

It was also felt that any move to a British Standard could also include the requirements of the HE sector scheme SS17. If this was felt to be achievable then it might be possible to have a single standard for the Industry.

DM was requested to provide an update at the next Executive meeting.

DM

There then followed a discussion regarding some organisations that were accredited to PAS 43 having serious non-compliances and therefore bringing PAS 43 into disrepute.

It was agreed that this serious issue should once again be discussed with UKAS to establish the effectiveness of their monitoring role and how best to deal with identified non-compliances.

DM / AR

4.3 SURVIVE Working Group 3 (Communication)

RG advised that, as already discussed, SH was working on the SURVIVE media campaign regarding the discouragement of working activities being carried out on the offside of vehicles plus the 'slow down – move over' advice.

AR advised that SH was also working with the M6 Toll organisation regarding the joint promotion of their safety advice leaflet.

RG advised that the role of WG3 was in essence the promotion of SURVIVE and its activities and that in order to do so this required the identification of what was to be said and how best to say it.

In order to help achieve this RG requested input from the Working Groups and the members of the Executive.

ALL

5 Structure of Working Group 1 and Working Group 2

5.1 Working Group 1

SI reported that the review of the structure of WG1 was still ongoing and that feedback was now awaited from NPCC and Direct Line / Green Flag regarding their representation on the Working Group.

5.2 Working Group 2

DM advised that the new agreed structure of WG2 would be disseminated at the forthcoming WG2 meeting.

6 Any Other Business

6.1 Motorway Signs

MP requested if clarification of the HE policy regarding the use of signs on motorways could be provided.

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Executive meeting with a view to PM providing a presentation covering signs and standards at the June Executive meeting.

AR

6.2 Network Training Partnership

AR advised that as agreed at the last meeting an approach had been made to Gary Tucker at NTP and it had been agreed that he would become a member of WG2

7 Date of the Next Meeting

RG proposed the following dates for the 3 meeting in 2020, which were then agreed: -

Monday 17th February at the AA offices in Basingstoke

Monday 15th June at the DL offices in Birmingham

Monday 19th October at the RAC offices in Walsall

RG closed the meeting by expressing the grateful thanks of the Executive to DM and RAC for hosting the meeting and for their kind hospitality.