

MINUTES OF SURVIVE GROUP EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 15TH OCTOBER 2018

Present Rob Gifford – Chairman
Shaun Coole - RRRA
Robin Herringshaw– Highways England
Mary Hill – RAC
Steve Ives – AA
Damon Jowett - Direct Line / Green Flag
Mick Puleston – AVRO
Andrew Reeve – Secretary

ACTION BY

1 Apologies for Absence

Simon Henrik - Direct Line / Green Flag
Dave Jones - NPCC
Mike Wilson - Highways England

RG welcomed Robin Herringshaw, who was standing in for Mike Wilson.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2018

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 and Police Forces

AR advised that feedback was still awaited from the Four Nations Safety Group regarding working practices following the circulation of the Best Practice Guidelines.

AR reported that feedback was also still awaited from Pauline Smith at NPCC regarding the circumstances and correct procedures for recovery operators wishing to call the Police for assistance at the roadside. It was agreed that David Jones would be requested to assist in progressing this issue.

AR / DJ

3.2 M6 Toll Road Safety Leaflet

AR advised that publication of the safety advice leaflet being produced for the M6 Toll Road was now imminent and would soon be made available as a download from the SURVIVE website.

3.3 Highway Code Update

AR reported that, as agreed at the last meeting, a letter had been sent from SURVIVE to Jesse Norman requesting that consideration be given to the inclusion of the 'slow down and move over' safety advice within the next update of the Highway Code. It was agreed that a copy of the letter would be sent out with the minutes.

AR

SI advised that a joint letter from AA, GF and RAC had also been sent to Jesse Norman supporting this proposal and were also developing a PR campaign. SC requested that the trade associations also be included in this campaign.

SI

4 Working Group Reports

4.1 SURVIVE Working Group 1 (Practices and Procedures)

SI reported that WG1 now had concerns over HE plans to develop some of the new Expressways without Traffic Officer coverage. HE had agreed to consider these concerns and would be providing clarification regarding how this would work.

Regarding the publication of the new version of the Best Practice Guidelines, SI advised that a number of enquiries had been received regarding the availability of the printed version. Therefore, consideration would be given for both a printed and electronic version at the next update.

SI reported that trials of the self-illuminating livery had proved it to be unreliable in operation and not very effective in daylight conditions. In addition, DFT had requested that off-road testing be carried out before consideration could be given to running any on-road trials. The main issue was still how motorist could readily identify that a vehicle was stationary at the roadside.

SI advised that following agreement at the Vehicle Recovery Practitioners meeting in August at Quinton, the "10 Basic Rules" card for technicians had been produced. It had also been agreed that this should carry the SURVIVE logo and was launched at the Tow Show in September.

A copy of this card would be made available as a download from the SURVIVE website and SI was requested to provide AR with the electronic version of the card, along with the explanatory notes and the presentation material being produced. It was agreed that these would also be circulated to the Executive with the minutes.

SI / AR

AR

Regarding promotion of the "SURVIVE Safety Rules", it was proposed that the recovery industry magazines help assist along with all WG1 and the Executive contacts.

ALL

SI advised that it was felt that consensus was now required regarding the use of traffic cones to help provide a safe working area. Therefore, WG1 were seeking to agree and provide guidance regarding the use of cones, much of which would be driven by time spent and the activities carried out at the scene.

4.2 SURVIVE Working Group 2 (Standards)

MH reported that Intana Assist had now left WG2 as they no longer managed breakdown assistance and that Call Assist had joined the Working Group.

Following an extended editorial process BSI had finally launched PAS 43:2018 on the 30th September. MH advised that there were not that many changes from the previous version and that a summary of these changes had also been produced.

A communication plan had been agreed by WG2 to launch the new version, which would involve a number of mediums including WG2 members, trade magazines, motoring organisation contractor networks as well as WG3.

WG2 / WG3

A question and answer document was also being developed to help with the launch, which would also be made available via the SURVIVE website.

AR

Regarding the Certification and Inspection Bodies being made aware of the changes, WG2 had agreed that they be issued with the key changes and the Q & A documents. They would also be requested to refer back to WG2 any question they may have for discussion and then responses would be added to the Q & A document or raised with UKAS as appropriate.

MH advised that following agreement of the proposed new structure of WG2, a meeting would be scheduled toward the end of quarter 1 in 2019 in order to commence discussions for the next edition of PAS 43.

MP enquired as to how long it would be before the new changes would apply and MH confirmed that all changes were immediate other than the training requirements.

SI asked if the review period for PAS 43 would be different should it be moved to a full British Standard. MH advised that the review period would then change from the current 2 years to 5 years. There was also the increased cost element to be considered and that this would be reviewed by WG2.

WG2

It was agreed that a copy of the changes within PAS 43:2018 would be circulated with the minutes.

AR

5 IPV's attending at Breakdown Locations

AR advised that whilst HE had confirmed at the last meeting the specific requirements for the use of an Impact Protection Vehicle, Michael Hawcroft from LV / Britannia Rescue had requested their legal team to also look into the legality of providing such a resource. He had as yet to receive a definitive answer or response.

SC advised that he was aware of a contractor who was already providing vehicles for this purpose and agreed to pass their contact details to AR.

SC

MH reported that RAC had been approached by BBC Breakfast regarding a "Slow Down and Move Over" campaign which was being promoted by RISK and Andy Lambert – Campaign for Safer Roadside Rescue and Recovery (www.csrrr.co.uk). They have engaged the services of Peter Carroll to help promote this campaign and it is believed that they are campaigning for legislation to include slow down / move over, and the use of red lights etc.

There then followed a general discussion which also involved (via telephone) Peter Williams, Head of External Affairs at RAC. It was agreed that as various 'organisations' were now involved with promoting the slow down / move over advice that it was essential that a joint message and approach be agreed

in order to seek Government assistance in promoting this advice it was agreed that WG1 would proceed with a review of the various 'campaigns' and seek to agree with all concerned the best way forward.

WG1

RG also agreed to talk to Simon Henrik and WG3 regarding the promotion of a single message.

RG

MH enquired if SURVIVE could do anything to help improve the safety of those who had to work on high speed dual carriageways.

RG commented that the main problem was that whilst some of these roads were controlled by Highways England, others came under the control of various Highway Authorities. This would dictate what additional resources, if any, could be provided if so requested.

After a short discussion it was agreed that WG1 should look into how best to identify any 'gaps' in assistance coverage on high speed dual carriageways and also determine how best to deal with them.

WG1

SI advised that there might be a possibility that different working practices would have to apply to the roads covered by HE and to those covered by Highways Authorities.

RG requested that this issue be included as a main item on the Agenda at the next Executive meeting.

AR

6 Structure of Working Group 2

AR reported that a draft proposal for the restructuring of WG2 had been developed and provided an outline of the main details. Following some discussion, it was agreed that the draft proposal would be circulated with the minutes for comment and approval by the Executive.

AR

SC and MP agreed to discuss the proposal with FOVRA and pass any comments back to AR

SC / MP

Once the new structure had been agreed, WG2 would produce the new Terms of reference for the working group.

WG2

7 ERRI and ROLS

AR reported that as PAS 43:2018 had now been launched, SURVVE would write to ERRI detailing our concerns about the development of multiple standards. The letter would enquire if ERRI had identified any gaps between PAS 43:2018 and ROLS, if so these could be discussed further with WG2.

RG / AR

It would also be requested that if necessary RG and AR attend an ERRI meeting in order to formally discuss the relationship between PAS 43 and ROLS.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Smart Motorway Safety Advice

RH advised that an HE colleague had recently received his motoring organisation renewal reminder and noticed that it did not contain any literature regarding how best to use Smart Motorways.

It was agreed that RG would discuss this issue with SH and WG3.

RG / SH

8.2 HE AVIS / Charm project

MP enquired if there were any updates regarding the progress of this project and RH confirmed that the work was still ongoing and that any specific questions should be referred to himself

8.3 SURVIVE Website Costs

AR advised that Headland has requested the contact details for AA, GF and RAC in order that the annual invoices for the maintenance of the SURVIVE website could be issued. These were confirmed as follows: -

AA – Steve Ives

GF – Damon Jowett

RAC – Mary Hill

9 Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SURVIVE Executive will take place on Monday 11th February 2019, at the AA Offices in Basingstoke, starting at 11.30 am.

It was also agreed that further Executive meetings would be held on: -

Monday 17th June at the Direct Line offices in Birmingham

Monday 14th October at the RAC offices in Walsall.

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