

PARLIAMENTARY ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TRANSPORT SAFETY

Minutes of Members Meeting

Thursday 7th July 2016: 2.30pm-4pm

Wilson Room, Portcullis House, Westminster

1. Welcome by Jim Fitzpatrick MP, Vice Chair

2. Minutes from last meetings (March 2016) and 2015 AGM (July 2015)

- The minutes were approved and no matters were arising.

3. Presentation: *Understanding the UK's road safety performance*, Richard Cuerden, TRL

- Richard Cuerden gave a presentation on the soon to be released PACTS/TRL report, *Understanding the UK's road safety performance* (slides available).

Questions and Comments

- Kate Carpenter asked about whether or not the report took into account levels of congestion on UK motorways. **RC** said that they had tried to, but it had been difficult due to a lack of data.
- Alan Charles noted that NCAP ratings relate to the car size. A 5 star small car is likely to be less safe than a 5 star large car. **RC** replied that this is true, but collision type also affects the outcome and smaller cars aren't necessarily less safe.
- Amy Aeron-Thomas asked whether analysis could be done to show the other road vehicles involved, such as HGVs, rather than just by victims. **RC** agreed that this would be useful, but hadn't been done on this report.
- Dan Campsall asked if other factors might be included in the reduction in casualties such as telematics. **RC** agreed that this was likely the case, but the report hadn't been able to cover them.
- Richard Allsop asked whether or not the figures concerning young drivers took into account the amount of driving they do.
- **DD** encouraged those with any further thoughts or suggestions on the report to get in touch with PACTS

4. Executive Director's report

- **DD** noted that given the result of the UK's recent referendum on membership of the European Union, this was a particularly interesting time for road safety. He recommended that members read PACTS' letter (circulated with the meeting papers) to the European Transport Safety Council, which reaffirmed PACTS' commitment to working with our European partners, and ETSC's statement on Brexit.
- **DD** said that PACTS had asked DfT to produce a statement on the implications of Brexit for transport safety but this was a complex a sensitive matter and was DfT unlikely to do so.
- **DD** said that he had heard requests for better co-ordination between road safety groups. He said that he hoped that the Timeline of Opportunities that PACTS was compiling would help. He reiterated his call for any suggestions to be sent to PACTS. This could include the work of other organisations, such as planned research, future conferences etc. (Saul Jevons is managing the project for PACTS.)
- **DD** announced forthcoming events, including:
 - PACTS/Direct Line Constituency Dashboard Awards, 12th July 2016
 - Joint Road safety Working Party Meetings, 14th September 2016 [NOT 21st Sept as previously}
 - PACTS Autumn Conference, 1st November 2016
 - PACTS Westminster Lecture, 12th December 2016
- **DD** Introduced Katy Harrison, Policy Officer. Katy had started in March 2016. Her role was to increase PACTS engagement with Parliamentarians.

Questions and Comments

- Richard Allsop affirmed that the ETSC Board see PACTS' Brexit letter as very positive, and that the ETSC Board will soon issue a similar statement.

5. Separation of PACTS as charity and APPG

- **DD** explained that the House of Commons' rules governing All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) had become much more restrictive and that it was necessary to distinguish PACTS the charity from PACTS the APPG. The PACTS Trustees had met that morning and agreed this should proceed. The charity will continue to be called the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety and PACTS members will continue to be members of the charity. The APPG will hold its AGM on 11th July and the matter will be discussed. It is likely that it will agree to be named the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Transport Safety and to request PACTS the charity to provide the secretariat. Only Parliamentarians may vote. DD said that while this might sound like a dramatic move, in practice the changes would be low key and helpful.
- **Jim Fitzpatrick MP** reinforced **DD**'s comments, saying that it will be a positive change which will help Parliamentarians to get more involved.

6. Working Party Reports

Written reports were presented to members

- a. **Rail Safety Working Party Report (David Davies for David Morris who sent apologies)**
DD noted that it had been a good year for rail safety, although several incidents had given cause for concern and loss of life has been avoided only narrowly.
- b. **Road Environment Working Party Report (Heather Ward, UCL)**
HW noted the presentation given at the group's last meeting on the Major Road Network and reported on a recent meeting between PACTS and the ORR. She also highlighted group set up by Highways England to investigate suicides on the SRN.
- c. **Road User Behaviour Working Party Report (Oliver Carsten, Leeds University)**
OC told the meeting about a recent presentation to the Working Party on fast-tracking treatment for vocational drivers with Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome, which fits well with the recent *Fit to Drive?* paper and the next study on driving for work.
- d. **Vehicle Design Working Party Report (Richard Cuerden, TRL)**
RC discussed the upcoming review of the EU General Safety Regulations and the ongoing developments concerning connected and autonomous vehicles, in particular, the need for a national strategy to ensure that UK collision investigators have the skills and knowledge to be able to investigate collisions involving this vehicles.
- e. **Air Safety Group Report (by Ian Frow who sent apologies)**
Due to time constraints, the Air Safety Group report was taken as read.

Questions and Comments

- **OC** suggested PACTS encourage the EU to ensure that the new General Safety Regulations are not delayed. He also said on the issue of autonomous vehicles, the 2030 group are putting together a number of policies and regulations, especially regarding collision investigation.
- **OC** also suggested that PACTS facilitate discussion between Working Parties on the issue of autonomous and connected vehicles.

(Jim Fitzpatrick had to leave and Jeanne Breen took over as Chair of the meeting)

- Jeanne Breen asked about the cost benefit analysis used in the General Safety Regulations and whether or not these estimates would be published. **RC** said that the new scrutiny guidelines say that this should be transparent.
- Jeanne Breen also asked if there had been any development in the Government's decision to reduce the sample size of RAIDS. **DD** said that PACTS had sent a letter to the DfT minister Andrew Jones who welcomed the comment and said the programme might be expanded, but there was no commitment.
- Anna Zee asked whether much was known about the tests for ITS systems used in automated vehicles. She said there is a need for greater public visibility when it comes to these tests, especially concerning the capacity to detect motorcycles.

- Alan Charles raised the issue of scrap dealers getting hold of air bags from wrecked cars, and the potential safety implications.
- Nick Starling updated the group on the work of the Transport Safety Commission, in particular on Work Related Road Risk. They had convened a meeting of high-levels stakeholders which had proved useful. It was agreed that there was support for the TSC and PACTS to take this issue further.

7. Endorsement of Working Party Chairs for 2016/2017

- All Working Party Chairs volunteers to stand again and members were happy for them to continue.

8. Any Other Business

- Alan Charles questioned whether medical staff had the time to record the severity of road traffic collision injuries for STATS19 purposes. **HW** said that this information was collected anyway by all hospitals.
- Amy Aeron-Thomas said that RoadPeace were undertaking work on raising standards in road collision investigation and would welcome contributions from anybody interested.

9. Dates of the next meetings

- The dates of the next meetings were agreed upon
 - Thursday 3rd November 2016, 2.30, Wilson Room, Portcullis House
 - Thursday 9th March 2017, 2.30, Portcullis House
 - Thursday 6th July 2017, 2.30, Portcullis House

Meeting closed 4.30

Attendance

Jim Fitzpatrick MP	House of Commons	Julian Hill	PACTS/Loughb'gh Uni
Amy Aeron-Thomas	RoadPeace	Emma Kelly	Road Safety Support
Richard Allsop	PACTS/UCL	Alan Kennedy	Road Safety GB
Laurence Atchison	PACTS	Andy Martin	Marmalade
Sir Peter Bottomley MP	House of Commons	Tim Packham	Police Federation
Jeanne Breen	PACTS	Peter Rodger	IAM RoadSmart
Daniel Campsall	Road Safety Analysis	Viscount Simon	House of Lords
Kate Carpenter	CIHT/Jacobs	Jan Sjorup	Road Safety Support
Oliver Carsten	PACTS/ Leeds Uni	Martin Spencer	Caravan Club
Alan Charles	Ace Consultancy	Nick Starling	PACTS
Richard Cuerden	PACTS/ TRL	Ian Taylor	Ass. of British Drivers
David Davies	PACTS	Barney Thompson	Hastings Direct
Philo Daniel-Tran	Thales	Heather Ward	PACTS/UCL
Duncan Dollimore	CTC	Charles Yankey	CIHT
Allan Edmondson	Rosco Ltd	Anna Zee	BMF
Andrew Evans	Imperial College		
James Evans	Firstcar		
Becky Hadley	Hadstrong		
Katy Harrison	PACTS		