

Annual General Meeting 2023

Draft Minutes

Held as a virtual meeting at 14.00-15.00 on Wednesday 20 September 2023.

Attendees

Anne Follin (Transform Scotland)
Caroline Thompson-Noble (Community Rail Network)
Chris Day (Transform Scotland)
Colin Howden (Transform Scotland)
Damien Henderson (West Coast Partnership)
Dave du Feu (Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign)
David Giles (Scottish Association for Public Transport)
David Kelly (Community Transport Association)
David Murray-Smith (Scottish Association for Public Transport)
David Prescott (AllanRail)
Elspeth Wray (Transform Scotland)
Emma Margrett (Transform Scotland)
Erik Dalhuijsen (Aberdeen Climate Action)
Ewan Tait (ScotRail)
Francis Galashan (The Galashan Trust)
Gareth Dixon (City of Edinburgh Council)
George Lowder (Transport for Edinburgh)
Gregor McAbery (Aberdeen Friends of the Earth)
James Harkins (Light Rail UK)
Jim Densham (Cycling UK in Scotland)
John Lauder (Scotland's Railway)
Jolin Warren (Transform Scotland)
Keith Irving (Cycling Scotland)
Laura Hyde-White (Transform Scotland)
Matthew Ledbury (CoMoUK)
Mike Harrison (Supporter)

Moira Tasker (Inclusion Scotland / Transform Consulting)
 Neil Wallace (Friends of the Far North Line)
 Nigel Bagshaw (Transform Scotland)
 Paul Tetlaw (Transform Scotland)
 Paul White (CPT Scotland)
 Peter Long (Community Energy Scotland)
 Philip Matthews (Transform Scotland alumni)
 Ralph Barker (Railfuture)
 Ron Stewart (Transform Scotland Supporter)
 Ros Browning (Transform Scotland)
 Sara Collier (CPT Scotland)
 Cllr Scott Arthur (The City of Edinburgh Council)
 Stuart Hay (Living Streets) (CHAIR)
 Tom Dickson (Rail Action Group East of Scotland)

Apologies

Cllr Angus Millar (Glasgow City Council)
 Debbie McCreath (Alexander Dennis)
 Hussein Patwa (Transform Policy Forum)
 Iain MacDonald (Light Rail Transit Association)
 Ian McCall (Paths For All)
 Malcolm Reed (Transform Policy Forum)
 Neil Kermode (Orkney Renewable Energy Forum)
 Sue Flack (Transform Policy Forum)
 Tom Flanagan (Transform Policy Advisor)
 Tweed Valley Rail Campaign
 Vic McKinlay (Light Rail Transit Association)

Discussion

Item	Notes	Action/decision
Approval of minutes from 2022 AGM	Approved by acclamation.	Minutes of 2021 AGM approved
Matters arising from 2022 AGM	There were no actions arising from last year's AGM.	None

Item	Notes	Action/decision
Election of Trustees	<p>Stuart Hay informed the AGM that after many years of service himself and Damien Henderson would be leaving the Board.</p> <p>The new Board of Directors was introduced. The new members are: Rachel Revesz, Karen McGregor, Scott Prentice, George Lowder and Jolin Warren. They join existing Directors Debbie McCreath, Cllr Angus Millar, Anne Follin and John Lauder.</p> <p>A warm welcome to all our new Board members.</p>	None
Annual Report 2023	<p>Stuart Hay, Colin Howden, Elspeth Wray, Laura Hyde-White & Ros Browning ran through highlights from the Transform Scotland 2023 Annual Report.</p> <p>Stuart thanked present and previous staff and contractors for their work over the past year. Colin particularly thanked all of Transform's many volunteers, without whom much of the charity's work would be impossible.</p>	None
Financial Report	<p>Stuart Hay gave a summary of the organisation's finances. The good news is that Transform Scotland is in a strong financial position. The full accounts will be published soon and available on the Transform website. If members have any questions they are welcome to scrutinise the published accounts and come back with any questions.</p> <p>Stuart gave a big thank you to all of Transform's funders, members, supporters and donors for supporting the charity.</p>	None
Re-appointment of the independent financial examiner	<p>Colin Howden explained that for many years now Transform has retained the services of Stanley Wynd Accountants as the independent financial examiner, who has provided an excellent service.</p>	Decision to continue using Stanley Wynd Accountants as the independent financial examiner
Q&A on Annual Report & Financial Report	<p>There were no questions.</p>	None

Item	Notes	Action/decision
Annual Work Plan 2023-24	<p>Colin Howden, Elspeth Wray and Laura Hyde-White summarised the Transform Scotland Annual Work Plan for 2023-24.</p> <p>The political focus of Transform is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Infrastructure. Prioritise zero- carbon transport networks. 2. Incentives. Make public transport more affordable than driving. 3. Financing. Use novel economic instruments to fund investment. <p>Key influencing projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City Region Deals transport spending ● Rail rolling stock influencing ● Public transport decarbonisation ● Traffic demand management ● Fair Fares ● Financing transport ● Continental style zebra crossings ● Aviation demand management ● National walking campaign <p>Laura summarised the range of events and digital aspects of Transform’s marketing and communications work.</p>	None
Q&A	<p>There were two main points of discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cost of motoring: road use is subsidised. Until we can control the ease of motoring and trucking how are we going to make progress? Voters want to pay less for petrol; how do we tackle this? (Ralph Barker) <p>Transform Scotland - we continue to tackle this issue. We continue to make the case for road pricing and workplace parking levies, so that at the least we are giving politicians the options for tackling this.</p> <p>Scott Arthur - a lot of inflation is driven by the rising cost of motoring. A recent report has highlighted the importance of bus priority and putting capacity in place for arterial routes so that people can be persuaded not to drive. For a lot of people there are simply not currently viable public transport routes. We need to provide the carrot and the stick.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Light rail: two days ago the DfT announced that light rail figures had really jumped in Edinburgh. A lot of these are former car journeys - one of the best ways to reduce particulates is to provide the alternative by building more tram lines (James Harkins) 3. Rural areas: when we talk about traffic congestion and the impact on public transport we tend to talk about cities. We need to remember that congestion can also be a rural problem. (David Giles) <p>Transform Scotland - agree, and it’s very important that we don’t just focus on public transport in cities; there are options for rural areas too.</p>	None

Item	Notes	Action/decision
Thank yous	Paul Tetlaw thanked Stuart Hay and Damien Henderson for their long years of service to Transform and all the help they have provided. We will be sad to see them go.	None
Close	Stuart Hay closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their support - funders, members, supporters, Board, volunteers and staff.	None

Minutes by Elspeth Wray on 21 September 2023.