

Road Safety Authority

Board Meeting Minutes & Action Tracker

Thursday 21 March 2024

Present	In Attendance
Ms Liz O'Donnell, Chairperson	Mr Sam Waide, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Sarah Johnson	Ms Kim Colhoun, Director of Finance & Corporate Services, Board Secretary
Ms Ashling Cunningham	Mr. Kenneth Svensson, Special Advisor, Traffic Safety Swedish Transport Administration and Vision Zero Academy
Mr Derek Cawley	Ms. Eva Bjork, Traffic Safety Swedish Transport Administration and Vision Zero Academy.
Mr John Cronin	Ms Nessa Kelly, Director of Strategy, Performance & Transformation
Dónall Curtin	Helen Hughes, Director of Professional Services, Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Dave Montgomery	Dr Suzanne Meade, Road Safety Specialist, Transport Infrastructure Ireland
	Ms Laura Byrne, Executive Office

Board Minutes

1	Apologies and Introductions The members were welcomed to the meeting and the apologies were noted.
2	Meeting in the Absence of the Executive The members did not have a meeting in the absence of the executive.
3	Conflict of Interest Declaration No conflict-of-interest matter was declared by the members present.
4	Minutes from Board Meeting, Decision Record & Action Tracker of 21 March 2024 NCT report being finalised with Mason Hayes and this will include recommendations on the length of a contract. NCT contracts have been 10 years due to capital commitment. Length and management of contracts will be covered in the report. Lessons learned will be completed. The minutes were reviewed and approved by the Board members.
5	Chairperson's Report



Meeting on 20 March with Minister McEntee postponed. Report to be discussed at this meeting to be shared with Board.

Ireland has raised to number 6 in Europe PIN Report and previously was number 3. This is due to the increase in fatalities.

DOT review underway and all requested documents, agendas, CEO reports have been furnished. Any outstanding board member questionnaires to be completed. Staff survey is being finalised and prepared for distribution for AP and higher grades. It was noted by Board there is a risk that we may not have clarity in time for the next 6-month budget. RSA to seek clarity on timelines with DOT.

The Minister responded to the Chairs letter outlining concerns regarding speed cameras. TII will lead the national speed camera strategy which was agreed at the RSTPB meeting. Letter to Minister Chambers and response regarding camera-based enforcement to be shared with Board members. The response mentions 3 to 5 new camera locations. TII and AGS will pinpoint necessary sites for cameras.

Sale of Alcohol bill raised in the response and will be raised with Minister McEntee at the rescheduled meeting. Harm reduction analysis and impact assessment was recommended. Research from abroad highlights increased fatalities or serious injuries with later closing.

20% increase in Go Safe in 2023 however clarification on the commitment for 2024. The ask with Go Safe is to include detection of mobile phone use and not wearing a seatbelt.

Good media response for St. Patricks Day and AGS provided enforcement and detection figures. Driver behaviour will only change with increased enforcement, increase in fatalities is aligned to increased population, increase in driver numbers and increase in licensing applications. However, number of roads policing has decreased which is contrary to this growth.

Research papers regarding behavioural and observation reports on mobile phone will be shared at the upcoming Ministerial meeting with briefing to Minister Chambers in advance. Invitation to be extended to Dr. Kiran Sarma to attend the June Board meeting. Board sought clarity on when the last research on mobile phone use was completed by the RSA and requested this be shared with the Board.

Chairperson was interviewed on the Claire Byrne show and this recording will be shared with Board members. During the interview Chair discussed self-funding model and outline the RSA's request for funding.



	Escooter campaign to launch on May 01 and legislation to come into force from May 20. Campaign to be shared with Board in advance of launch for information. Media updates from the team to include Board members. Dublin City Council has expressed an interest to present to RSA Board on escooter rentals.
6	Vision Zero presentation Kenneth Svensson and Eva Bjork joined the meeting. The Vision Zero presentation outlined the impact of lowering speeds on rural roads and the work continuing with the Swedish government. Vehicle manufacturer involvement is necessary in achieving vision zero. Stakeholder involvement and collaboration across all aspects is necessary to reduce road fatalities. The Transport Administration is the lead agency on road safety however it was noted that Vision Zero is a shared responsibility. Definition of system designers and ownership to be shared with Board. Sweden designs roads and set speed limits that work hand in hand with the car manufacturers in order to get most of the system out there. The Swedish Vision Zero policy was adopted by Parliament with renewed commitments made in 2016 by Government to take further steps to continue with road safety work. Camera technology is used widely in Sweden with over 2,000 to date. They are referred to as lifesavers and not speed cameras. There are signs notifying the driver of upcoming cameras as the aim is not fixed charges but to slow speed. Media updates when new cameras are installed with an app available to pinpoint all camera locations and road type. Cameras and speed limits are widely accepted by the population. There is the possibility to extend camera use to non-seatbelt wearing and phone use and the same technology is currently used in Dubai however only used for speed currently in Sweden. All Swedish police officers must spend 20 minutes a day on road safety. The public are interviewed every 2 years on vision zero as the concept is widely spread and accepted. Road maintenance is very important. Ireland needs consistency in county councils and the RSTP has spoken of this. New speed limit guidelines will move 100k roads to 80k.



	Research on number of fatalities showing age of the road and if barriers are on the road to be provided. The concept of Kinetic energy (ability of body to absorb the crash) could be included in speed campaigns.
7	Data Sharing Agreement Nessa Kelly joined the meeting. Overview of the DEG, engagement with DPC and current position discussed. Action 62 and Action 107 involve collision data sharing. This includes data sharing with RSA/AGS and RSA/AGS/LGMA/RMO/NTA Legal provision to permit data sharing between parties have been considered by DOT and DPC. Following a scoping exercise which included a discussion with OGCIO, it became clear that sharing of the collision data would not come within the scope of the Data Sharing and Governance Act 2019 because the collision data includes categories of data excluded from the scope of the Act. Art 36(4) GDPR requires that any legislative measure proposed (in this case a ministerial direction) which would involve processing of personal data must first go through a consultation process with the DPC. DOT are lead agency in preparing legislative changes required for onward sharing of collision data with DPC provide with AGS legal basis to share data under S.7 AGS Act. Discussions ongoing since June 2023 when DPC expressed concerns in relation to the information being shared around personal data and open narrative field. AGS reviewing data set and 98% agreed with RSA. A workshop is scheduled to discuss the outstanding datasets which includes this open narrative field. RSA needs to be comfortable and get assurance from AGS on the data quality. It is expected that discussions with AGS on the data fields to be shared will conclude in April with a view to revising the draft Ministerial direction and the consultation material to reflect the revised proposals, and DoT reverting to the DPC in late April 2024 for further consultation. Necessary legislation to be raised at Ministerial Committee. Nessa to provide summary overview to Chair on this issue which can be shared with Senators.
8	Audit & Risk Committee



	Dave Montgomery brought the Board through the Audit and Risk report and annual report. The ARC discussed the income and expenditure account for financial year 2023, balance sheet, capital expenditure, cashflow analysis, draft financial statements, internal audit update, review of effectiveness of internal control and corporate risks. The latest version of the Draft Risk Management Framework document will be shared with ARC members for review ahead of the next ARC meeting. RSA CRO, Nessa Kelly will attend the next ARC meeting. Position paper on reserves to be prepared and shared with new Era to assist in current review of RSA reserves. The Board members noted the assurance statement as reviewed which prepared by the Executive and reviewed in detail by ARC. This satisfied the requirement for the Board to complete an annual review of the effectiveness of internal controls as set out in paragraph 7.5 of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. An annual workplan with meetings and agenda items similar to the Board workplan is to be developed. The Board agreed for a quarterly report to be added to CEO Report which will outline FOI's, protected disclosures, staff turnover to be included in the CEO report to the Board as opposed to the ARC pack.
9	Chief Executive Officer's Report Road Safety Update RSA will attend day 1 of the Transport Research Arena event. Day 1 will discuss road safety and Chairperson will act as Moderator. RSA will advocate for driving for work at this event. Tickets are €400 per person per day and not useable by others. NCT and driving testing on track to meet SLA's from end of June as per commitment to DOT. NCT is higher in January but this is expected due to car sales and have received assurance from Applus that SLA's are on track. RSA invited to attend Joint Oireachtas Committee on April 24 on road safety. Minister advisory has suggested that the Minister would like AGS to zoom into enforcement on out-of-date NCT. Escooter campaign to launch on May 01 with legislation in place from May 20. Digital driving licence proposals being developed with OGCI. DT Curriculum project and Multiple Learner permit have been deferred as no budget or resources



	available in first half of the year as outlined in the business plan and 6-month budget to both Board and DOT. CoVIS contract being externally independently reviewed from a technical aspect to capture processes, procedures in the event an alternative option being required. Service credits and funding being withheld as SLA's are not being delivered. RSA's concerns have been escalated to the EU Head office and requested mitigation plans be put in place. RSA to confirm is escrow is in place for the contract. RSA are waiting for a formal written letter from Fujitsu regarding the contract. Internal risk analysis is underway regarding the issues in the UK and will also encompass the current performance issues. Road Safety Transformation Board Meeting held last week. Kiran Sharma presented on mobile phone use in Ireland. This presentation will be given at the Ministerial Committee meeting. Report to be shared with Board. Risk Report 2024 L1_008 Third Party Supplier Failure increased due to concerns with CoVIS. Risks under 12 are reviewed by CLT as part of the performance review monthly. Cyber security will remain on risk register. L1_005 over reliance on single suppliers for outsourced services will be removed from the L1 register to the L2 register. L1_004 public service wait times and backlogs, will remain on the corporate risk register until all services are meeting SLA. Noted by Board.
10	Status of Speed Cameras in Ireland – TII Update Helen Hughes and Dr. Suzanne Meade joined the meeting. TII are responsible for national roads within Ireland. Joint stakeholder in house trials underway such as average speed cameras in place at the Port Tunnel and M7, 4 junctions in Dublin close to LUAS are using red light at signalised intersections to measure spot speed on an approach road and variable speed limits on the M50 where fixed charge notices will now apply. The cameras fall within Action 8 of the Government Road Safety Strategy and Safety Performance Indication (SPI) safe speeds. Camera based enforcement working group has been established. A stakeholder group made up of RSTP members went to a technical learning trip to Transport Scotland. Scotland has a dedicated website for camera locations as well as in house monitoring.



	National Safety Camera (NSC) working group has been established to provide direction, knowledge and guidance from stakeholders to assist the development of the Strategy plan. The strategy will recommend the funding, partnership and governance arrangements associate with management and implementation of camera enforcement in Ireland. Active speed management and enforcement programme is a key action of the Climate Action Plan 2023 and National Sustainable Mobility Policy. Various considerations are taken for site selection, so its evidence based such as speed-related collisions where engineering and education not effective, high collision rates and high % exceeds mandatory speed limits. A national structured approach is needed with clear responsibilities, governance, reporting, targets and funding. TII are developing a handbook and will review best practice. Input will be sought from DOT, AGS and local authorities. TII have access and legislation to share national roads data available. The public will be notified when the programme of work has been finalised. Mobile Trial sites have been identified at the M5 Swinford Bypass to be operational in Q4 and the N3 Cavan in 2025. TII feel a road structure engineering experience is a gap in the RSA. Research team needs this understanding for reporting.
11	Items for Further Discussion and Any Other Business Governance Documents – Governance document to be reviewed and updated for the next Board meeting. Board Management Software Options – Board agreed to proceed with preferred bidder. Gender Reporting Action Plan – meeting to be scheduled with Alison Coleman for further discussion. Youth Form Terms of Reference reviewed by Board. Awareness campaigns report for next 6 months to be shared with Board Members.
	Date of Next Board Meeting Friday 31 May 2024 in RSA Offices Ballina Co Mayo. Dinner and overnight on Thursday evening at 7pm in Ice House Hotel





Signed:

Chairperson

31/05/2024

Date:

