

TRANSPORT AND WORKS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2007 ANNUAL REPORT ON TRANSPORT AND WORKS ORDERS

Background

Section 21 of the Transport and Works (Scotland) Act 2007 (“the Act”) states that:

- “1. The Scottish Ministers are, by 1 October in each year after the year of Royal Assent, to prepare a report on orders made, or not made, under that Act and applications or proposals for orders made or still current during the year;
2. Matters contained in the report –
 - a) details of each order, each applicant and application or each proposal,
 - b) where Scottish Ministers dealt with an application or proposal or made a direction that a proposed project be treated as a national development, a summary of the reasons for doing as they did, and
 - c) in relation to each order, the length of time taken from receipt of the application or, in the case of a proposal, the date of publication of a notice of that proposal, to determination.
3. The Scottish Ministers to lay a copy of the report before Parliament as well as publishing the report.
4. The relevant period is the period is the 12 months which ends on 31 July in each year.”

The relevant period for this Report is the period 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2011.

TAWS Report

1. The TAWS Unit is established within Transport Scotland’s, Local Authority Roads and Partnerships Team.
2. Future TAWS Orders and advice given to the following:-
 - a. Network Rail – Edinburgh to Glasgow Improvement Project (EGIP). One meeting has taken place and more meetings are planned along with a future site visit.
 - b. Strathspey Railway Company – Heritage Railway. Frequent correspondence has been exchanged.
 - c. The Waverley Route Heritage Association, in the Borders – Heritage Railway. Correspondence has been exchanged and a site visit has taken place.

Orders

3. During the relevant period –
 - a) No orders were made (or by virtue of section 11(2) (c) of the Act, not made) under section 1 of the Act.
 - b) No applications were made or remain current as at the date that period ended.
 - c) No proposals by the Scottish Ministers to make an order under section 1 of the Act were published in a notice, nor did any such proposal remain current at the end of that period.

Conclusions

4. Network Rail's (NR) timeline indicates, the TAWS Unit should receive NR's TAWS Order by early/mid 2012. EGIP is the core element in upgrading the strategic rail network in central Scotland.
5. The TAWS Unit continues to provide procedural advice and guidance to the promoters of the two heritage railway developments.

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT