**Polis working group meeting on urban freight**

**8 September 2016 – London (hosted by TfL)**

**Minutes**

## Participants

**Chair: City of Rotterdam**

Richard van der Wulp, City of Rotterdam

Jos Streng, City of Rotterdam

**Polis members:**

Christophe de Voghel, Brussels Mobility

László Sándor Kerényi, BKK - Centre for Budapest Transport

Tijl Dendal, Region of Flanders - Department Mobility and Public Works

Tim Ward, Transport for London

Enrique García-Cuerdo, Madrid City Council

Sergio Fernandez Balaguer, EMT MADRID

Mathew Roberts, Transport for Greater Manchester

Marilena Branchina, Pisa

**Polis secretariat:**

Giacomo Lozzi, Polis

Thomas Mourey, Polis

**Invited external participants:**

Nina Nesterova, TNO

Hans Quak, TNO

## Welcome & Presentation

by Richard van der Wulp

## Introduction & Objectives of the Working Group

by Giacomo Lozzi – Presentation available

**Aims of the WG:** exchange of best practices, lobbying at the EU level and funding opportunities.

**Focus of the WG:** on urban freight solutions rather than objectives. The WG will focus on solutions that are difficult to be implemented by a city alone, and for which a common understanding and joint action is required instead.

**News:** Polis is in charge of CIVITAS Urban Freight Thematic Group (TG). Polis will be able to create synergies and share best practices and strategies from other European cities.

**Documents**: Polis has created and updated two databases:

a) EU projects on urban freight of the last and coming years; and

b) cities active in urban freight project/policies (including their strategies, policy background, involvement in EU projects)

**Actions**:

Polis secretariat: Add contact details to the database of cities

Polis secretariat: Circulate the updated databases

All: Update of the database of cities (on yourself or other cities)

All: Propose topics to discuss for next WG meetings

## A strategy for zero emission city logistics: how can cities act together?

by Richard van der Wulp & Hans Quak – Presentation available

Presentation of the current situation on zero emission city logistics.

**Problem**: For operators, prices of electric freight vehicles (EFVs) are too high while for OEMs, the demand for EFVs is too low.

**Question**: How to make the uptake of possible in Europe? How can cities work together in order to obtain a more tangible result?

**Solution**: Bring as many operators together to show to the OEMs the potential existing market. The idea is to show the number of operators who would be ready to buy EFVs, if they were available with the relevant characteristics and at a reasonable price.

**Document**: (non-binding) Declaration of intent (to circulate – already circulated in the Netherlands with success)

**Discussion**: The declaration has been signed by a great number of operators in the Netherlands and other European cities are asked to collect signatures in their countries.

The other cities accept to circulate the declaration.

Barriers: Type of operators (often self-employed)

Policies/incentives have to be introduced beforehand

Lack of communication with local operators

Advantages: Allow to focus on Electric Freight Vehicles (EFVs) too (not only e-cars)

Can accompany dedicated (EFVs) calls (at national or European levels) from the municipality side (public procurement). E.g. this [H2020 call](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/gv-08-2017.html) which clearly mention freight

Ideas: Communication through association of freight operators

Can start with in-house/linked operators – e.g. waste removal operator (often public)

Possibility to liaise with busses, taxis, car-sharing operators in a later stage, but focus on freight primarily. Moreover, there is a dedicated Polis WG on electromobility that can be addressed to deal with this issue at a broader level.

Identify and get in contact with other relevant platforms, such as the ALICE platform[[1]](#footnote-1) and the Expert Group on Urban Mobility[[2]](#footnote-2).

**Actions**:

Polis secretariat: share the declaration of intent and involve more Polis members potentially interested in the topic / which have already some experience on zero emission city logistics.

Polis secretariat: investigate whether the EIB (maybe in the framework of the new EFSI) would support such an initiative.

All: Circulate the declaration of intent among local operators / courier local associations.

All: Discussion of the process and next steps at next WG meeting in Rotterdam.

## Recognition schemes

by Christophe de Voghel with presentations of Tim Ward and Richard van der Wulp (Presentations available)

**Starting point**: Brussels wants to launch a recognition scheme. There are choices to be made on the scope, the focus/topics, the advantages, the approach, etc. There is also a decision to make on the creation of a new scheme of the use of an existing scheme (FORS, Ecostars, etc.). Brussels is in favor of using an existing scheme, but for political reasons linked to the Brexit, it cannot implement the FORS scheme alone Again, this is another UF solution requiring that cities work together in order to obtain a more tangible result.

Comparison of Ecostars and FORS (presentations available)

**Discussion**:

1% of FORS users are located in Europe (non-UK). Already possible to use this scheme.

It would be probably easier to start with a single scheme in the BeNeLux (Ecostars?) as markets and (often) regulations are similar and related (geographically).

**Suggestion**:

Include recognition scheme(s) in a project proposal on up-scaling.

Action:

Brussels to share the state of advancement on this topic with other cities.

## Next steps

**Next WG meeting**: Rotterdam on 30 November 2016 (back-to-back with Polis conference).

Selection of 2 topics for the next WG meeting:

* Zero emission city logistics strategy: status of the adoption of the declaration of intent.

**Collection of topics**:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hot topics 2016 identified by Rotterdam and TfL:** | **Proposing city** | **Interested city** | **Priority level** |
| Zero emission vehicles: joint action procurement | Rotterdam |  | High |
| Consolidation | London | Brussels |  |
| Data (contribution of UFV to pollution / # of UFV in cities)  *NB: not collection of data, but solutions how to do that* | Rotterdam |  |  |
| Charging infrastructure for FEV | Rotterdam |  |  |
| Light goods vehicles / vans | London |  |  |
| Land use planning | London |  |  |
| Regulation | London |  |  |
| Re-timing (off-peak deliveries) |  |  | Low |
| Procurement of goods and services (non-vehicle) |  |  | Low |
| **Other:** |  |  |  |
| Recognition schemes | Brussels | London  Rotterdam | High |
| Biogas in urban freight | Manchester |  |  |
| Direct vision, vehicle design (lobbying prespective) | London |  |  |
| Exchange of experience on data collection on urban freight (technical) | Brussels |  |  |
| Joint action procurement | Pisa |  |  |
| Upscale and transfer of solutions (from frontrunners) | Flanders |  |  |
| Communication/cooperation between cities and regional/national levels | Flanders |  |  |
| Integration of freight in general mobility policies. Link between all urban freight topics. | Flanders |  |  |

**Actions:**

All: complete the list of topics (use Excel file)

All: Selection of one or two thematic areas for the next WG meeting

All: identify a topic of interest and volunteer for preparing and moderating a discussion on it during the next Polis UF WG.

1. The European Technology Platform ALICE is set-up to develop a comprehensive strategy for research, innovation and market deployment of logistics and supply chain management innovation in Europe. <http://www.etp-logistics.eu/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3165> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)