

## **STA Board meet Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – EICC**

### **Note of Meeting;**

- All agreed minute of last meet in Dublin
- MC presented year end stretch forecast & STW programme update
- MC confirmed details of TLG funding that became effective JAN 2017
- MC updated on WILD SCOTLAND contract advised down scale of contract commitment to a total STA exit at end April 2017
- General discussion re prior night conversation with VS Board - concerns raised re LJT comments and understanding of STA. Acceptance by all pre-dinner scene setting / agenda could have been better from both sides. **Actions: MC** to pick up with MR to address post dinner communications and how to move forward with future STA/VS Board engagements –**Action RB & CR** to provide better understanding of STA to new VS Board and feedback on thoughts to VS Chair
- Discussion re Board member recruitment- agreed current board chair should remain in situ until such time wished to step down or voted off. All agreed Board should still be kept fresh and allow for new members to join. Recruitment to start in summer for up to 4 new board members to be formally approved in October. **Action All** :Any suggestions for potential new board members to target to be advised to MC
- SL asked if any member of current board wished to step down before Oct. then please to advise him:
- It was agreed STA Articles be changed to reflect a min number of Board members as 4 as opposed to a max number ( currently 12 ) to allow for flex. **Action. MB** to draft amend for approval

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- All agreed importance of transparency of board recruitment and need to ensure diversity of board also geographical representation – MC reminded all that bringing additional skill set insight should remain priority when recruiting too - **Action MC** to get copy of last SF&D Board recruitment add from JW and action recruitment from May.
- SL/MC reported on feedback from STA Council meet – SL referenced Phil Prentice presentation Scottish Towns Partnership – good organisation for STA to link with. MC advised already a good working relationship exists and will continue to develop.
- Re STA advocacy – SL stated important to not underestimate impact of costs impacting business growth – concerns from many in the industry – Business Rates issue now becoming serious – **Action MC** to make formal request to FM for intervention and request for meetings
- Discussions with Lord Andrew Dunlop re concerns for industry now and ongoing in lead up to Brexit – Rising costs and EU workforce being major concerns. All agreed ongoing chat with Scottish Office was important and should continue on a regular basis. **Actions MC** To set future dates for meets.
- There was no AOB meeting was closed by SL with thanks and see you in Glasgow for STW

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