

Chair's Report for 2022

This report covers the calendar year 2022, corresponding to the period covered by the finance report and accounts. During 2022 the Transport Economists' Group (TEG) continued to share, discuss and debate the latest research and ideas in transport economics with a wide array of fascinating topics from rail passenger rights, Hebridean Ferries, local bus service developments and deregulation to the impact of digital navigation on driver behaviour. We're proud that we were able to continue to offer a stimulating programme during the year that engaged a wide range of global participants and grateful to our presenters.

During 2022 we took a hybrid approach to meetings in response to member feedback during 2021, with at least one meeting a quarter being live, the rest virtual. Attendance at meetings ranged from a high of 55 attendees to an average of about 26 over the course of the year.

Monthly Meetings

We were fortunate to have an excellent group of speakers in 2022, not least our very own Dick Dunmore, and we're grateful for their fascinating presentations. The TEG held nine monthly meetings where experts spoke on a range of topics:

- Mar-22 Dick Dunmore spoke on Rail industry contracting, competition and capacity: next steps
- Apr-22 Dick Dunmore kindly presented again, this time on Rail industry passenger rights: next steps
- May-22 David Metz presented on the impact of Digital Navigation on travel behaviour
- Sep-22 Peter White presented on Recent developments in local bus services, the taxi/PHV market, and the role of smaller vehicles
- Oct-22 Peter White & Tim Reynolds spoke on Forty years' experience of express coach deregulation in Britain
- Nov-22 Dominic Walley presented on Clyde and Hebridean Ferries – The impacts on Island Communities

Members engaged enthusiastically and challenged constructively with these topics.

Publications

The Transport Economist, journal of the TEG, continued to be superbly edited by Committee member Peter Gordon. Three editions of the journal were published for 2022 (Volume 49 – Number 1 to 3).

As has been our convention for some time, copies of the slides used by speakers during their presentations were circulated by email to members after each meeting. We are grateful to our speakers for allowing us to share their material with members in this way.

Membership and Finance

Our Treasurer and Membership Secretary has written a separate finance report, which shows that the Group is in a strong financial position and that membership numbers are being maintained.

Publicity

The Committee continues to make efforts to publicise the TEG and our events, using the following means.

- Our website (www.transecongroup.org) which is updated each month with details of forthcoming talks.
- Monthly emails to members advising of the next talk and the forward programme. This is an effective marketing tool as many members forward this email on to other people in their networks, resulting in a wide distribution beyond the membership.
- A flyer for each talk sent out with the monthly email, intended to be suitable for posting on office notice boards.

Committee

As in 2021, all members of the Committee made significant contributions to the running of the TEG during 2022 and we are most grateful to their continued involvement. Thank you to Dick Dunmore who kicked off his professional retirement with 2 consecutive presentations to TEG at the beginning of the year while continuing to serve as Secretary and Webmaster. Thank you to Peter Gordon, Editor of *The Transport Economist*; to Gregory Marchant, Treasurer and Membership Secretary who has kept our accounts in order and to Adriana Moreno Pelayo and Iris Ning, instrumental in hosting our virtual meetings.

We also express sincere gratitude to Tom Worsley who stepped down as a committee member without portfolio after many years of providing valuable insight and guidance. Thank you to all the committee!

We are very grateful to Melanie Buchan for her excellent work as our Group Administrator, thank you! Much of the work that keeps TEG running happens 'behind the scenes' which our members do not always have sight of. The contribution of volunteers like Melanie, and of committee members, makes TEG possible.

And we are grateful to our members, who continue to present and engage us with stimulating and thought-provoking topics and conversations and questions at each TEG meeting!

Tali Diamant, Chair, 3 March 2023