
ACCESS DISPUTES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of MEETING No. 72 held in London on 17 July 2025

Present:

Andy Wylie (Committee Chair)
Jonathan James
Chris Matthews
Chris Meadows
Kate Oldroyd (*attended virtually*)
Raj Patel

Apologies:

Matt Allen
Ian Kapur

In attendance:

Tamzin Cloke (Secretary)

It was noted that the meeting was quorate.

72/1 Approval of the minutes of the 71st Meeting, held on 20 March 2025

These were approved and a signed copy will shortly be available on the Committee's website.

72/2 Matters arising from the minutes of the 71st meeting

All actions arising had been closed, save for one action assigned to Matt Allen. MA advised - post-meeting - that the action could also be closed. The Secretary advised that the office lease had been renewed on favourable terms for five years, with a three year break clause, per the Committee's instructions.

72/3 Matters determined in correspondence

No matters had been determined in correspondence.

72/4 Position on references

The Committee noted a report from the Secretary setting out the current position regarding dispute references. The number of live TTPs remained below 100, with the unprecedentedly high hearing requests now at a more normal level. Of the 89 open disputes, 11 were flagged as possibly able to be removed, and the operators had been sent reminders. Other types of disputes remained very low in numbers. The Committee noted that Virgin Trains Regulation 32 appeal outcome was now published on ORR's website, and NR advised that there would be briefing material available, as well as updated Part J templates, reflecting the outcome of the appeal.

72/5 Recommendations arising from determinations

The Committee approved several actions arising from the recent ORR appeal of TTP2613, as well as the Chairs' gathering, for the Secretary to pursue. The ADC Chair placed on record his appreciation of the constructive discussion amongst Committee Members, who had been involved in the dispute, which had followed the ORR appeal publication.

72/6 Update on website

The Secretary provided an update on the website, which is up to date.

72/7 Financial matters

a) Current financial position

The Committee noted a report from the Secretary on this topic.

b) Accounts 2024/25

The Committee noted a paper from the Secretary and approved the accounts.

c) CAHA Registrar's accounts for 2024/25

The Committee noted the CAHA Registrar's accounts for 2024/25.

d) Financial check

A financial check took place on 25 June 2025, undertaken by Chris Matthews who provided a report. No financial or numerical discrepancies were uncovered. It was noted that future financial checks should also include a cross-check of all internal NatWest transactions.

Volunteer for next financial check - Raj Patel (**Action 72-01**).

72/8 Employment matters

a) HMRC update

The voluntary disclosure process remained ongoing; the accountants were still waiting for a further response from HMRC, however the final settlement was now expected to be much reduced compared to the initial estimates.

b) Secretariat pay review

The Secretary was absent for this item. The Committee discussed and agreed on a modest uplift for the Secretary and Office Assistant in line with the Committee's annual budget. In recognition of the unprecedentedly difficult workload over the last six months, the Committee also awarded a one-off discretionary bonus to the Secretary and Office Assistant

72/9 Update following Hearing Chairs meeting

The Secretary provided a brief verbal update on general matters discussed, for those Committee Members unable to attend the above annual meeting, held under the Chatham House Rule. It was noted that feedback from the Chairs had been very positive, and the Chairs had been very supportive of the idea of holding 'open afternoons' with industry parties to explain the disputes processes in more depth.

72/10 Industry reform and ADC

A brief update was provided on engagement to date. The contractual structure remained unclear, but the ADC Chair was going to contact GBRTT to see if a further ADC / GBRTT meeting could be arranged. It was expected that the draft Access and Use Policy might be available for circulation in the Autumn.

72/11 Election of Chair

ADR Rule J19 required election of a Committee Chair at the first meeting after 01 April each year. The members present decided unanimously to re-elect Andy Wylie as Chair for the forthcoming year.

72/12 Christmas meal

The Secretary was asked to book a venue, with the meal to be held after the December meeting (**Action 72-02**).

72/13 AOB

Chris Meadows advised that, due to an upcoming secondment starting on 01 September, he would need to resign his Committee Membership. The Committee thanked him, and expressed its appreciation for the time he has spent on ADC matters. A new Network Rail Committee Member will be appointed in due course.

Approved at ADC Meet #73 on 11 December 2025