

**Minutes of the meeting of the BTMA retread committee held on  
 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 by phone conference**

**Present:**

Mike Cole	<i>Michelin Tyre plc</i>	Dan Collins	<i>TTS</i>	Dan Edwards	<i>Bulldog Remoulds Ltd</i>
Tim Hercock	<i>Hon RMA chairman</i>	Justin Holloway	<i>Bandvulc</i>	Azeem Khan	<i>Michelin Tyre plc</i>

**Apologies:**

Howard Malcolmson *Alterever*

**In attendance:**

Graham Willson *BTMA Chief Executive*

**1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham welcomed participants to the call. Apologies were received from Howard Malcolmson at Alterever.	Noted.

**2. Compliance statement**

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham reminded members of their responsibilities under the BTMA Competition law compliance guidelines.	Members agreed to abide by the requirements of the guidelines.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
The minutes of the meeting held 17 <sup>th</sup> March were reviewed.	The minutes were validated unanimously.

**4. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda**

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
None.	

**5. Covid-19: messages to government**

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
<b>Current support measures:</b> Members reported that they had all adopted periods of partial or total shutdown since the outbreak of coronavirus in order to adapt production to reduced demand. Government support measures were considered to have met the need so far.	An extension of the job retention scheme was needed with additional flexibility to accompany the re-start of the economy.
<b>Future support to "Build back better":</b> Consideration was given to the case for government support for vehicle operators to buy better tyres as they recommission vehicles cannibalised during lockdown.	Shared expectation that the ramp-up will be gradual and tyre availability good. Agreement that the case for gov't support is weak.

## 6. Government engagement

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
<b>DfT tyre age limit consultation:</b> Mike Cole reported recent engagement with local MP willing to write to Minister seeking favourable result for retreaders.	Noted. Agreement not to widen the initiative to include other retread constituency MPs.
<b>BEIS interest in remanufacturing:</b> Still waiting BEIS Call for evidence. Officials re-allocated to other Coronavirus-related activities.	Noted.
<b>Defra Waste Prevention Plan:</b> Project still live but delayed by impact of Coronavirus. Expect renewed contact with Defra official soon.	Noted.
<b>DfT freight CO<sub>2</sub> reduction:</b> Decarbonisation of Transport report published. COP26 deferred to 2021. Pressure is still on to implement energy-saving measures on existing heavy vehicles.	A strong CO <sub>2</sub> -focused message is needed.
<b>EA Standard rules permit consultation:</b> Pending Defra decision re EA proposal to maintain exemption for small retreaders. Positive early signs.	Noted.

## 7. Potential impact of revised Road Transport Fuel Obligation

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham summarised research into the potential for adverse impact on retreading arising from subsidies for the production of road fuel made from used tyres. The direct threat to casing supply seems small but there is a residual risk of the plant operator subsidising the supply of single-life truck tyres in order to increase supply of used tyres rich in natural rubber on which payment of the renewable fuel subsidy is based.	Graham to circulate summary paper for comment and engage with DfT / Defra to address concerns.

## 8. Climate Change Agreement consultation

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
The current CCA scheme is extended to March 2025. Entry is only possible under current rules: retreaders are excluded. Indications re new scheme starting 2025 point to tightened eligibility criteria based on both energy and trade intensities. No numbers yet but clear focus on “value for money” in relation to decarbonisation suggests that the bar will be set high.	Graham to circulate a self-assessment spreadsheet to enable members to test their data against the likely thresholds.

## 9. Communication priorities

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Current topics offering opportunities for communication with government were reviewed. Coronavirus and Brexit are largely occupying gov’t attention.	Immediate focus on lobbying Potteries MPs re potential tyre age restrictions.

## 10. 2020 activity plan

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham presented a status update of the activity plan. See annex.	Retread forum is definitely “Off” for 2020.

## 11. Any other urgent business

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Tim gave a status report on the winding up of RMA, now almost complete. Administration of Bipaver has transferred from Vaco in Holland to the German tyre retreaders association. Bipaver & ETRMA are working to deliver a joint position on retread labelling to the EU Commission.	Noted.

## 12. Date and venue of next meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> July by conference call.



Subject	Delivery				Comment
	Q1'20	Q2'20	Q3'20	Q4'20	
5-year retread strategy					
BEIS Remanufacturing initiative (retailer vested interest)					Call for evidence in preparation
Regulatory level playing field (End of Waste & age limit)					Age limit announcement "Spring"
Improved product stewardship (inflation, husbandry, skills)					Gaining traction with DfT
Engaging with smaller fleets (business models, tech, etc)					Traffic Commissioners receptive
Communication					
Consider communication of 5-year plan to other stakeholders					WPP consultation response
Review revised website content					Pending
Retread Forum: objective, target audience, speakers, etc.					Not in 2020
Review impact of countervailing duties 18 months on					Need data
Communication to gov't, NGOs, etc re tyre service contracts					Part of holistic response to WPP
Reduce regulatory burden for retreaders					
Light-weight environmental regulation for small retreaders					Exemption in progress
Avoid requirement for financial guarantees under env. permit					Awaiting consultation
Relief from Climate Change Levy for retreaders					
Refine member energy data					Pending
Build case around Resource & Waste strategy, etc					Part of holistic response to WPP
Deliver message in function of CCA strategic review					CCA2 extended to March 2025
Collation & presentation of UK retread data					
Collate and report Health and Safety data					Pending
Collate & anonymise annual production data					In progress