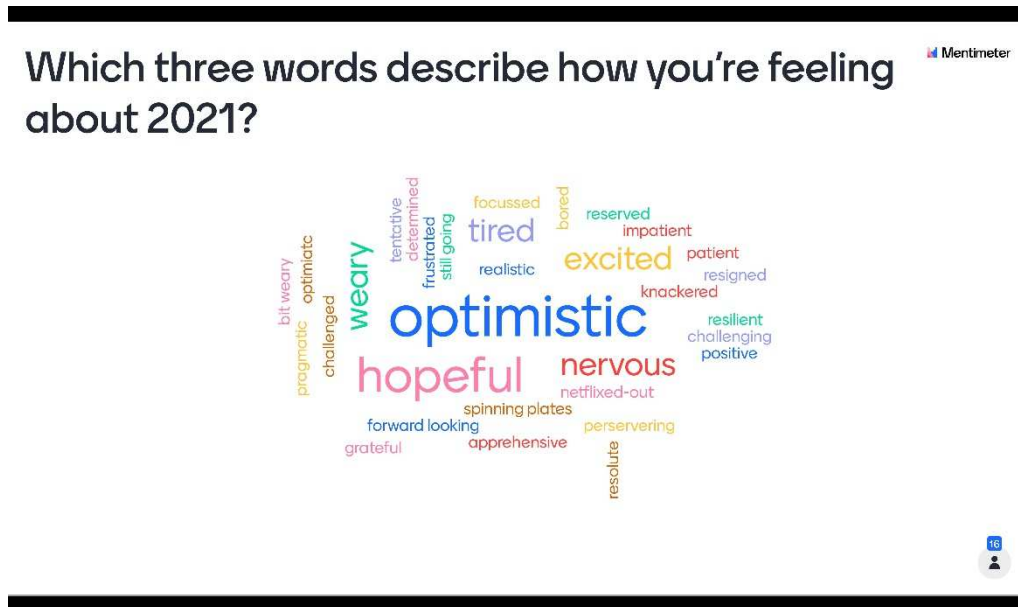


ADEPT Midlands Board – January 2021 Update

On 21 January 2021, representatives from eleven local authorities, East Midlands Councils, Midlands Engine Partnership, Midlands Connect, Highways England, Department for Transport and the Cabinet Office virtual met.

Below is a word cloud representation of our check-in:



The Board were delighted to receive presentations from the Midlands Engine Partnership and Cabinet Office.

- Rachael Greenwood (Executive Director) spoke to a presentation on what's happened at the Midlands Engine over the past year and what's going to happen this year, which led to a discussion on areas for collaborations. Attendees were encouraged to view the Midlands Engine's Year end video: [Midlands Engine Review 2020 film](#), visit the Observatory which contains information and insight: <https://www.midlandsengine.org/our-programmes/observatory/> and explore the link to the Mental Health and Productivity Pilot website: [Helping Employers Improve Workplace Mental Health | MHPP](#)
- Melinda Johnson, Dept for Health and Social Care – East Midlands talked about the role of Heads of Place and discussed possible opportunities for collaboration and support. An event will be held around March time to engage with the wider public sector.

Feedback was received from the ADEPT leadership covering four items: COVID-19 related activities; Subject Board work plans (*Engineering Board; Transport & Connectivity Board; Environment Board; and Sustainable Growth Board*); a blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level (now looking for Local Authorities to [sign up](#) to the initiative); an update on Live Labs 1 and developing thinking for Live Labs 2.

A reminder on the forthcoming ADEPT events was given (click [here](#)):

- 3 Feb - ADEPT / Arcadis webinar on learning from the Dutch experience of developing / implementing active travel solutions
- 5 Feb – ADEPT / Proving webinar introducing the work of the Future Highways Research Club
- 27 May – Spring Conference and Annual Awards Dinner – in London. Fingers and toes crossed.

In relation to learning and development, the ADEPT Leadership Development Programme is now seeking expression of interests for the [2021 programme](#) which will start in April. The Board were encouraged to consider this programme for their rising stars.

It was noted that the *Excellence in Place Leadership Programme* is about to publish a 'Customer experience toolkit' (adding to the Green Finance Toolkit). In December 2020, ADEPT published '[Leadership in a Climate Emergency](#)'

The Board took part in a live poll offering ideas for topics they would like to cover this year.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place virtually on 14 May 2021.