

## FAQs – Adapting ADEPT: preparing for the future

### 1. Why are the changes being proposed?

In Autumn 2018, the Leadership Team commissioned the consultants [Shared Intelligence](#), to carry out independent research into the impact of the Association. The findings concluded that there were high levels of satisfaction amongst members, but also that there were some key areas for development. As a result, the Leadership Team is proposing to make a number of [strategic and operational changes](#), which we are seeking to have ratified at the [Annual General Meeting](#) on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019, following a consultation exercise with the membership throughout May.

### 2. What are the changes being proposed?

There are four key changes that we are proposing to make:

- Reframe the business delivery model around 4 key areas
- Restructure some Subject Boards to reflect the changing landscape
- Do more to capture and disseminate good practice
- Focus influencing activity across three strategic priorities

### 3. How will the business model change?

We are proposing to refocus the business model around four key areas:

- Membership services
- Networking & learning
- Research & development
- Influencing & policy development

ADEPT values the input from our members and as a result, we have already started to build on the membership offer. As well as the successful networking and learning opportunities we provide through our Boards and working groups, conferences, workshops and online resources, we have introduced partnerships with [Proving Services](#) and [SOLACE](#) to provide new services. We will look to establish new partnerships where they offer benefit for members. We have introduced small events for Corporate Partners to focus on strategic areas of common interest. We also want to grow our opportunities for research and development. A strong focus on good communications is key.

### 4. How will ADEPT develop its ability to influence?

Members have said that they would like to see us take advantage of our broad remit and become the recognised ‘voice of place’. They want to see more collaboration and partnership working whilst not losing our distinctive voice. To achieve this, we propose to focus on three strategic cross-cutting priorities for the next 12-24 months:

- Place-based funding post-Brexit – shaping the detail of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund; alternative farm and land management payments; and adequate resourcing of councils.
- Communities and infrastructure - leveraging effective local partnerships and leadership to deliver good, clean and inclusive growth.
- Climate change and environment – delivering on the ambitions of the 25-Year Environment Plan, promoting resilience and climate change adaptation.

We want to ensure that our networking, learning, and R&D take into account key enablers – technology, innovation, big data, and partnerships - and feed into our policy development and influencing work. We will also undertake a review of the current Strategic Plan to ensure it reflects these new priorities.

## **5. How will the Subject Boards be restructured?**

Members have told us that Subject Boards often reflect more on today’s challenges and less on emerging issues and horizon scanning. We therefore propose the following changes:

### **Transport Board**

- Renamed the ‘Transport & Connectivity Board’
- Remit to include road, rail, aviation, digital, utilities
- Digital Connectivity working group moves to be under this Board

### **Planning, Housing & Regeneration Board**

- Renamed the ‘Sustainable Growth Board’
- Consider establishing a Skills working group under this Board

### **Environment Board**

- Consider establishing an Air Quality working group
- Relaunch the Natural Capital & Heritage working group

### **Engineering Board**

- No amendments proposed

## **6. What will be the benefit of these changes to ADEPT?**

The Association has already changed significantly from its days as the County Surveyors’ Society, and we continue to evolve. The Leadership Team has listened to the views of members and would like to introduce these changes as a direct response. Our ambition is to continue to expand the membership, diversify and grow income streams, use our resources efficiently and effectively, and provide value for money.

## **7. How will these changes benefit members?**

Members will always hold differing views about the value and role of ADEPT, our functions and services, and make use of them in a variety of ways. However, members do have clear views about what they would like to see from us. We want to improve our offer to members by creating more opportunities for networking, influencing and sharing best practice, such as the partnership with Proving Services. As a result, we aim to offer the membership a range of services and opportunities that can be tailored more effectively to meet different needs, and provide clear value for money.