

ADEPT Engineering Board
19 July 2024: 10.00hrs – 13.00hrs via Teams
Meeting notes & actions

Attendees:

Name:	Initials	Representing
Mark Stevens (Chair)	MS	Haringey Council
Kathy Moore (note taker)	KM	Haringey Council
Aisha Jayne Kapil	AJK	Department for Transport
Alex Walton	AWal	Arcadis
Andrew Loosemore	AL	Kent County Council
Andrew Tatt	AT	Rutland County Council
Andrew Warrington	AW	Arcadis
Ann Curruthers	AC	ADEPT President/Leicestershire County Council
Barrie Mason	BM	North Yorkshire Council
Bill Manby	BM	East Riding Council
Bob Feurtado	BF	Senior Traffic Management Engineer – Morgan Sindall
Carl Skelton	CS	East Riding Council
Christian Mason	CM	Infrastructure Projects Authority
Christopher Stokes	CS	Michelin
Hannah Bartram	HB	ADEPT
Jack Wiltshire	JW	Dorset Council
James Bailey	JB	Staffordshire County Council
Jayne Black	JB	Cheshire West Council
Kathryn Moreton	KMo	Walsall Council
Keith Tovee	KT	Essex County Council
Kylie Russell	KR	ADEPT
Malcolm Fairhurst	MF	Bolton Council
Mark McPeak	MM	Infrastructure NI
Martin Carnaffin	MC	Notts. County Council
Matt Eglinton	ME	Department for Transport
Maureen Gargan	MG	Telent
Navid Afshar	NA	Norfolk County Council
Neil Sennett	NS	Amey
Paul Fermer	PF	Oxfordshire County Council
Peter Massie	PM	Essex Highways
Shaun Moseley	SM	National Highways
Simon Jeffrey	SJ	Local Government Association
Apologies:		
John Monk	JM	Lincolnshire County Council
Keith Harwood	KH	Hertfordshire County Council
Neil Bennett	NS	Derbyshire County Council
Steven Child	SC	SMC Consultancy
Wayne Carey	WC	National Highways

Items	Topics for Discussion	Action by
1.	<p>Welcomes, introductions, and purpose of joint meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS welcomed everyone to the meeting. • Apologies noted (listed above). 	
2.	<p>ADEPT Presidential address (Ann Carruthers):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme for the year is resilience. Demand goes up but unfortunately the funding and resourcing doesn't match. Resilience is an issue for us and what we are delivering whilst at the same time trying to decarbonise etc. • Resilience for local authorities – we are in a difficult position with financial challenges up and down the country. We may be in new territory with a new government – we have to wait to see how that pans out. • Peer support is brilliant, helping each other as individuals and professionals in our remit. • We have a new government – lots of positive messages for local government. Key messages from the Secretary of State – changes around more support and changes around bus agenda, investment and infrastructure and how we delivery more efficiently. • HB provided an update following LGA forum who invited Angela Rayner to attend. There was talk of resetting relationships with Local Government. • Talk around devolution, planning, housing, homelessness (not necessarily for this Board). Letter being sent to Secretaries of State (inc. Department of Transport) asking for meetings, setting up site visits with ministers for Livelab projects etc. Definitely honeymoon period but feels very positive. 	
3.	<p>Roadworks Incursions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP introduced himself and his colleagues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bob Feurtado Snr Traf. Mngt Engineer – Morgan Sindall ○ Maureen Gargan – Head of H&S Wellbeing Telent Highways ○ Shaun Moseley – Project Manager – National Highways. • Reviewed presentation. • MG explained the about the video and social media campaign planned for October 2024 looking to educate road users. It also focuses on road workers and what they should/shouldn't be accepting • Video shown of an incursion on the M5 junction 8 roundabout, followed by images of changes made to the site following the incursion. • SM explained about an East Region Incursion Group which has been set up. The group includes Suffolk, Essex and Thames Valley police. They have all jumped on board with this – there are regular meetings. • There have been 2 successful prosecutions last year 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BP advised there is a Home, Safe & Well ‘incursions’ webinar in September 2024 	
Items	Standing items	Action by
4.	<p>Big Litter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item postponed til next Board due to sickness <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add to October 2024 Agenda 	KM
5.	<p>PFIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KMo introduced Christian Tyson – Infrastructure Projects Authority (sits on Cabinet Officer & Treasury) and Neil Sennett (oversees Amey for street lighting). KT advised there are currently 54 PFI projects in the DfT portfolio – the bulk of which are street lighting and highway maintenance projects. Walsall currently has one person on the client side (she turns 70 tomorrow!) and she has been with the authority since the start of the PFI. The resilience in the future is a real concern. The IPA guidance has been extremely helpful in terms of raising the profile NS gave an update on the Walsall contract – was originally for 25 years and started in 2002. It has been extended for 1 year (one of the very few to be extended). 95% of the assets have been converted to LEDs which has been fantastic, in terms of reducing their energy usage. The next stage is trialling some dimming for the authority and progressing into hand backs. Walsall has had a change of Cabinet but its okay as a Cabinet decision had already been made. IPA guidance is very good and very useful and helps to think about how to best start the project and how to start the transition piece. ME echoed a lot of the sentiments KMo raised around PFIs. CT shared a link on preparing for PFI contract expiry <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KMo to share details of PFI forums which take place quarterly with anyone who is interested in attending. 	KMo
6.	<p>Leveraging data & AI to shift gear on road safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alex Walton and Chris Stokes delivered a presentation on the work taking place in Warwickshire. CS reviewed live data for Essex and Haringey and how this can be narrowed down further. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AW & CS to return to the Board once results of the work completed in Warwickshire have been completed. 	AW/CS

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS to introduce Haringey's Traffic Engineering Manager to discuss what we are doing with an alternative system and what its trying to show us (from an urban perspective). 	MS
Standing items		
7.	<p>DfT update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME updated on new suite of ministers following the General Election and he has now met with all of them. Feels positive, long-term funding for Highways. Spending review September/October 2024. ME introduced Asha-Jayne Kapal who joined last month. MS advised that ADEPT will be writing to ministers to introduce the organisation to them. If there is anything that needs further local authority guidance – happy to be step into that space to clarify local authority and highways maintenance perspective. ME reminded that Labour has 5 key missions and very much investing in the local home networks. ME responded to PMs question around the previous consultation around the use of income from fines etc and where its likely to be continued or dropped. ME couldn't answer as yet but will update. 	
8.	<p>Future Highways Research Group update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update received. 	
9.	<p>ADEPT Guide for Local Highways (Climate) adaptation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AW looking for volunteers from colleagues' teams to join an ADEPT working group to start working on the Adaptation guide, particularly what it will mean. Won't be talking about general climate change. Focus on severe weather events. Key climate changes Focus on rainfall, heatwave and storm and key highway infrastructure assets we should prioritise. Drainage, structures, earth works & pavement have had huge climate impacts. Will produce a toolbox guide for local authority use KR added link to https://www.adeptnet.org.uk/documents/dft-transport-adaptation-strategy-consultation-adept-response which people may find interesting. MS mentioned that John Lamb from UKRLG perspective in terms of the ABC board has also been pushing for completion of a hazard survey from the DfT he sent through approx. 1 month ago. Seeks to clarify how local authorities are responding in terms of adaptation so you may want to link up with John Lamb. AW advised he will also be linking up with John Munslow who leads the subgroup. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If interested in being part of the above working group, email AW contact details and he will arrange a Teams call 	ALL

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10.	<p>National Bridge Working Group update: Update from Keith Harwood read out by MS with apologies for not being able to attend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met last week (10 July 2024) minutes due out soon. The theme of the meeting was heritage bridges with a presentation by Canals and River Trust and Historic England. <p>One item to raise at board: Commuted Sums: Discussion on whether the 2017 bridges guidance on calculation of commuted sums should be updated to accompany the overall guidance. Agreement that it should be updated as authorities are adopting a variety of methods, but no volunteers to take this on. Does Engineering Board have any willing structures volunteers?</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AW to talk with KH on the Commuted Sums document and pick up the strand above 	AW
11.	<p>Soils & Materials Design & Specification Group update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email update provided by SC from the last meeting held on 9 July 2024 (attached with notes/actions) 	
12.	<p>Street Lighting Group update: KT updated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National meeting took place 28 June 2024 – Richard Newman from Leicestershire County Council attended to give an update on their 30% dimming trial being carried out. It's affecting 30,000 streetlights. The trial started in February 2024 and, so far, only 3 enquiries received. Question raised if there is a problem with this if the public doesn't notice. Something for the lighting industry to consider. Karl from East Riding gave an update on the Live Lab 2 trial and decarbonising street lighting. Progressing well and is being keenly followed by the lighting industry. David Denner, Chair of the UK Lightening Technology Board which is part of the UK Road Leadership Group, gave an update on the rewriting of the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Section D on lighting and also the reviews going to incorporate the management of electronic traffic equipment 2011 and add it as section E. This will hopefully include additional items like sensors which a lot of us are having to install Gafor Dean at Warwickshire County Council is leading on this. There is a call for volunteers to review both sections and provide comments either KT who is the vice-chair of the Board or directly to the Board. Another issue in the group, mentioned previously, is the ongoing concern about the shortage of the experienced personnel in the industry not just on street but in the office too. We need to ensure and have plans in place. We know the Highway Electrical Association is looking at this and trying to promote the introduction of younger people into the industry. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern around the attendance at Street Lighting Regional Board meetings (mentioned at previous meetings). Can we urge members of the Board to encourage their teams to attend their regional meetings? If any issues at the Regional Boards please let KT know. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue to be removed from distribution list for ADEPT Engineering Board and KT is the replacement. 	KM
13.	<p>UKRLG/ADEPT Asset Management Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS delivered update from NB who couldn't attend: • Last board was held on 6 June 2024. • Business plan update – more significant areas are awaiting research funding from DfT, so relying on the capacity of the board members to deliver relevant actions/priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business plan reviewed and will be refreshed and ratified at October board. ○ Guidance theme – work on updating ‘maintaining a vital asset’ – Drafted and ready for comms input/desk top publishing ○ Finance theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ questionnaire to go out to members re ‘making the case’ for additional funding – best practice ▪ revenue accounting approach - working with CIPFA on-going • Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Robotiz3d - spin off from University of Liverpool. The products are a suite called ARRES = Autonomous Road Repair System including ARRES-Eye and ARRES-Prevent. ARRES-Eye is commercially available, ARRES-Prevent is under development. ○ NUAR - update to the board - GeoPlace/OS/DfT working to align OSMM Highways and Gazetteer submissions. Local Street Gazetteer custodians are key to updating MM Highways Looking at integration of PROW into the NSG. GeoPlace are testing the business case for this, in particular how this will be maintained • We are also looking at the issues around 3rd party claims not covering the full cost of the damage to highway assets. We are looking at gathering some best practice on how authorities are dealing with this. Could be one to work collaboratively. 	
14.	<p>Future items for discussion:</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the board to send through any future items for discussion to MS and copy in KM 	All

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15.	<p>Minutes of meetings of 12 April 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS reviewed actions from last meeting. Few waiting on response from DfT. Some more work to be done 	
16.	<p>Future Conferences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RSTA Fact or Fiction, Bolton or Blackburn 10/11/12 September 2024 JCT Traffic Signal Symposium, Nottingham – 11/12 September 2024 LCRIG Strictly Highways, Blackpool 1/2/3 October 2024 ADEPT National Traffic Managers Conference – 9/10 October 2024 ADEPT Autumn Conference 2024 21-22 November 2024 Highways UK, NEC Birmingham – 16/17 October 2024 RSTA Technical Training Day, Stafford – 19/20/21 November 2024 Road Expo, SEC Glasgow – 27/28 November 2024 ADEPT National Traffic Managers' Conference 9 October 2024 	
17.	<p>Diary dates for future meetings – 2024-2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 October 2024 – in person at JCB Headquarters Staffordshire Site visit in the morning and Board meeting in the afternoon 17 January 2025 11 April 2025 11 July 2025 10 October 2025 	
18.	<p>Any other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MM updated on the work he is doing on EV charging project in relation to putting cables across footways for properties that don't have driveways. Very useful informative information provided from MS and colleagues. MS updated on the work happening in Haringey – trialling KerboCharge and Gul-e Charge. In terms of interest, there has been approximately 60 people who have contacted KerboCharge and 4 who contacted Gul-e Charge. Other systems shown are expensive. CS advised lots of trials are taking place – article in Highways Magazine including Durham <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KM to circulate MM's document relating to this. 	KM
19.	<p>Items to note:</p> <p>UK Roads Board 18 December 2023 UK Network Management Board 19 January 2024 ADEPT/UK Asset Management Board October 2023 ADEPT Street Lighting Group April 2024 ADEPT/Canal and River Trust Guidance April 2024 National Bridges Group meeting notes March 2024</p>	

Next meeting: Friday 19 July 2024 from 10.00 to 13.00