

**ADEPT Engineering Board**  
**17 January 2025: 10.00hrs – 13.00hrs via Teams**  
**Meeting notes & actions**

**Attendees:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mark Stevens (Chair)	MS	Haringey Council
Kathy Moore (note taker)	KMo	Haringey Council
Andrew Crudgington	AC	CIHT
Andrew Loosemore	AL	Kent County Council
Andrew Tatt	AT	Rutland County Council
Bill Mamby	BM	East Riding Council
Carl Skelton	CK	East Riding Council
Christian Mason	CM	Infrastructure Projects Authority
Christina Stathakopoulou	CS	OZEV
Emily See	ES	Amey
Gary McDonnell	GM	Essex County Council
Glen Lyons	GL	CIHT
Graeme Kane	GK	North Northants County Council
Hannah Bartram	HB	ADEPT
James Bailey	JB	Staffordshire County Council
Jane Young	JY	Surrey County Council
Jayne Black	JBl	Cheshire West Council
Jeremy Wiggin	JW	Norfolk County Council
Karl Melville	KM	Cumberland
Keith Harwood	KH	Hertfordshire County Council
Keith Tovee	KTo	Essex County Council
Malcolm Fairhurst	MF	Bolton Council
Mark McPeak	MM	Infrastructure NI
Matt Eglinton	ME	Department for Transport
Neil Sennett	NS	Amey
Nick Henstock	NH	West Northants County Council
Pat Clarke	PC	Leicestershire County Council
Peter Massie	PM	Essex Highways
Robert Richards	RR	Devon County Council
Shaun Moseley	SM	National Highways
Simon Jeffrey	SJ	Local Government Association
Stephen Child	SC	SMC Consultancy

**Apologies:**

Carl Skelton	CS	East Riding Council
Kylie Russell	KR	ADEPT
David Hughes	DH	Cumbria LEP

John Monk	JM	Lincolnshire County Council
Julian Gould	JG	Derbyshire County Council
David Boyer	DB	Warrington Council
Kevin Townley	KT	Norfolk County Council
Andrew Warrington	AW	Arcadis
Karen Farquharson	KF	Karen Farquharson

Items	Topics for Discussion	Action by
1.	<p><b>Welcomes, introductions, and purpose of joint meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MS welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> <li>Apologies noted (listed above).</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>CIHT CLIMATES initiative (Glenn Lyon &amp; Andrew Crudgington):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GL delivered presentation and the CLIMATES research survey which is available until next month.</li> <li>MS advised on the works in this space that Haringey Council has progressed.</li> <li>SC and JB mentioned they had both completed the survey with positive comments.</li> <li>Climate Change Board has joined with ADEPT</li> <li>HB mentioned that Andy Gutherson, the Place Director at Lincs CC, chairs the Local Adaptation Advisory Panel</li> <li>ME shared this link:  <a href="#">Local roads branded "national embarrassment" as Govt urged to tackle £15bn repair backlog</a>            HB mentioned that, along with responding to the Integrated National Transport Strategy, ADEPT is also responding to the Transport Committee call for evidence ‘managing the impact of street works’</li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate research survey available until next month. GL asked if all could complete if not already done so.</li> </ul>	All
3.	<p><b>The work of LGTAG (Emily See):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ES reviewed her presentation and shared the following link: <a href="#">LGTAG publishes its updated Residential EV Charging guidance – LGTAG</a></li> <li>JY advised Surrey CC is part way through the first round of its trial – small number of roads and properties.</li> <li>AL shared <a href="#">Charging electric vehicles in Kent - Kent County Council</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage team members below Engineering Board member level to join and participate in LGTAG meetings and activities</li> </ul>	All

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4.	<p><b>DfT update:</b></p> <p><b>PAS 2161</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ME apologised that no-one was available to talk this through today so would arrange for appropriate attendance at the next meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cross-pavement solutions for EV charging</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CS shared a few slides</li> <li>MS advised discussed at Board previously. Haringey is starting a trial soon. Issue with legal on wording around liability</li> <li>Intention is to get resident to pay for channels – NRSWA Section 50 licence is one option for LHAs however Haringey has gone down the Highways Act Section 178 license route.</li> <li>GK advised they aren't trialling yet – community issues. Potential conflict re anticipated rights to parking outside own house considered could lead to community tensions, given there is no right to park immediately outside of one's property (unless there is a dedicated disabled parking bay provided).</li> <li>Some commercial potential conflict – would use a list of contractors (works not done by the authority)</li> <li>AB mentioned they are looking to allow in Hertfordshire CC. Surprised on DfT's response inc. payment for maintenance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please forward any other feedback to CS</li> </ul> <p><b>The new incentive fund approach: Matthew Eglinton</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ME gave a brief presentation on some of the challenges in this space and his thoughts on how this needs to be addressed.</li> <li>A lively discussion then followed amongst the Board, endeavouring to suggest how this might be achieved in a reasonably simplistic but deliverable way.</li> <li>Options on how to tackle this exist but clarity is needed on how comfortable HM Treasury &amp; Ministers would be with these options.</li> <li>Some concern over how money that is allocated by DfT actually gets spent on highway maintenance, rather than diverted elsewhere. MS suggested the S151 officer commitment to spend appropriately and publish the work delivered following Network North approach had been followed and seemed an appropriate control.</li> <li>Some authorities may not have all the appropriate arrangements in place that applied to those authorities required to follow the previous self-assessment incentive fund approach. A requirement to have this in place by the end of March 2026 might be one mechanism for releasing the 25% top-slice.</li> <li>As no conclusions were reached, MS suggested that the DfT might call a separate dedicated meeting on this topic which LHAs could</li> </ul>	All

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	<p>engage in – either a select group or a wide group – and involve Treasury officials.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ME to consider offer for a follow-up meeting re incentive fund.</li> <li>• ME to consider which DfT officials to attend for future review of PAS 2161.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Future Highways Research Group update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No-one from Proving Services in attendance.</li> <li>• The next FHRG meeting is on 5 February 2025 – no further updates that anyone is aware of at this stage, though.</li> </ul>	
6.	<p><b>National Bridge Working Group update: Keith Harwood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last meeting held end October 2024 and the next meeting is scheduled end February 2025. A lot of work is around liaison with groups including Network Rail.</li> <li>• Network Rail has a couple of new initiatives including a new network asset management system which is going to let us see all their inspections and help towards safety of and inspection of our bridges that go over their infrastructure</li> <li>• Another thing is Asset Care Experience (ACE system) which Network Rail is putting a lot of work into. This will help get LAs on the railway with less problems and less cancellations, which are major issues for us.</li> <li>• Another item on liaison was restarting a group working with the rights of way – they are called the ADEPT Rights of Way Working Group and have found someone to lead on this.</li> <li>• The next meeting is KH’s last as chair of the National Bridges Group. At the meeting, the group has some ideas about who will chair and moving around (secretaries, chairs, vice chairs etc). Will ensure Engineering Board is updated.</li> <li>• KH will continue to be technical secretary of the Bridge Owners Forum to keep hand in and undertake some bits of work for Hertfordshire</li> <li>• MS thanked KH for all of his work in chairing the National Bridge Working Group. MS also mentioned that John Monk is also retiring at the end of March 2025. He was unable to make today’s meeting but passes his regards onto everyone. MS thanked John as well for everything he has done whilst being a member of the Engineering Board.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Soils and Materials Design &amp; Specification Group update: Stephen Child</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC advised no meeting has been held since the last ADEPT Engineering Board. Next meeting 25 March 2025</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an SMDS meeting with our northern and southern groups on 8 April 2025 with Paul Edwards Highways England as SMDS is talking to him about the changes to get more educated in the detail.</li> <li>• Interested to see information from N Yorks about National Pothole Day and their pothole machine from Australia which they will investigate further.</li> <li>• Will give an update at the next ADEPT Board from the meeting in March 2025.</li> </ul>	
8.	<p><b>Street Lighting Group update (Keith Tovee):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picking up on ES presentation earlier, the group has found working with Dean from LGTAG - who's the London chair - very useful. He has attended our meetings for many years.</li> <li>• Last meeting held on 9 January 2025 – had a catch up with Leicestershire County Council on dimming its lights to 30% after 20.00hrs. Whilst it was a lot of work, think it's been very useful. Only 5 complaints received and now a year in so something for others to consider.</li> <li>• The group had Carl come and do a Live Lab 2 update on the East Riding of Yorkshire scheme. That's progressing well and hopefully will change their standards in lighting going forward.</li> <li>• Good news time – energy prices fallen, that should help with our limited budgets</li> <li>• Started working with National Highways to come up with further guidance on demarcation responsibilities for lighting i.e., who owns what. There was some initial guidance previously issued by ADEPT in approx. 2019 but it mainly covers bridges and culverts. There are other locations where street lighting is affected. Going to work with National Highways and maybe come up with some guidance which will be shared with the Board.</li> <li>• Ongoing concern around attendance to regional meetings for street lighting. Would like to encourage members of this board to tell their street lighting teams about and to encourage them to attend the Street Lighting Working Group. Possible add ADEPT (title) in email signatures for all to see and raise awareness.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>UKRLG/ADEPT Asset Management Board (Neil Bennett):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NB provided written update via Teams chat as had to leave meeting.</li> <li>• Have not had an AM board since the last Engineering Board however the AMB is coordinating its next meeting for February.</li> <li>• AMB has been in discussions with the UK Roads Board to identify areas for collaboration and to ensure its business plans are developed and joined up and those discussions are on-going. JB and NB are sure will pitch in if there are any questions.</li> <li>• We have been in a prolonged period of hiatus in major activity due to there being no available funding for research. However, AMB is working closely at UKRLG to focus activity on a revision of the code of practice that DfT has committed to fund this year.</li> </ul>	

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10.	<p><b>Future items for discussions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PAS 2161 – to be picked up at future board</li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any topics for future Engineering Board meetings, please forward to MS to be scheduled into the agenda.</li> </ul>	All
11.	<p><b>Minutes of meeting of 12 October 2024:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MS has reviewed minutes from October 2024 board – no actions seen that haven’t been followed through on.</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b>Future conferences/webinars etc:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LGTAG Presidents Conference 4 June 2025 Bletchley Park</li> <li>Bridges conference 12/13 March 2025 Coventry</li> <li>The next Lunch &amp; Learn will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, hosted by AtkinsRealis with the theme “Getting Home Safely: Why considering the safety of women and girls is crucial for inclusive transport and spaces.” To register see <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>The next ADEPT / NE webinar will focus on ‘Planning for nature &amp; climate resilience’ and will take place 1330-1500 on Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> January. If you would like to attend, please email <a href="#">Hannah Bartram</a>.</li> <li>The next Blueprint Coalition webinar takes place 11.00-12.00 on 13<sup>th</sup> February on the theme “How can net zero and climate adaptation goals be met through planning reform?”. The webinar will be chaired by Sophie Broadfield, Chair of SW Board. You can find the registration link here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Jh2p5dn1S3-tK6E1ZmrPLA#/registration">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Jh2p5dn1S3-tK6E1ZmrPLA#/registration</a>.</li> <li>The Live Labs 2 Expo will be held in the Hilton Hotel, Liverpool on 25<sup>th</sup> March. To register your interest in attending and find more information – see <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>The Spring Conference and Annual Awards Dinner will take place in London on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Save the date!</li> </ul>	
13.	<p><b>Dairy for future meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11<sup>th</sup> April 2025</li> <li>11<sup>th</sup> July 2025</li> <li>10<sup>th</sup> October 2025</li> </ul>	
14.	<p><b>Any other business:</b></p> <p><b>ADEPT Guide on Climate Adaptation for Local Roads (Andy Warrington)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are aligned with the wider work of UKRLG through the ABC (Adaptation, Biodiversity, and Carbon) sub-board – Jon Munslow and John Lamb</li> <li>Tim Rowland-Deverell of DfT is supporting the work on the group directly.</li> </ol>	

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	<p>3. We had an excellent workshop on Weds this week in the Arcadis London office to develop many of the sections in the guide.</p> <p>4. For example, we had an extensive discussion on ground water runoff across highways although I'm not sure we quite reached a conclusion – yet.</p> <p>5. Members of the group are gathering case studies relating to flooding, flood risk management (both Kent) land slips and retaining wall failures (both Derbyshire), pavements suffering heat damage or rainfall damage (myself), pavement heave (Lincs and Norfolk) [it's actually the underlying geology rather than heave as we learnt from Mark Heaton's research in Lincs).</p> <p>6. AW would welcome any other case studies from all board members (just email AW) particularly relating to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Climate (heat/rainfall) impact on structures</li> <li>b. Climate (storms) impact on tree management – any changes in tree management strategy?</li> </ol> <p>7. The working draft document contents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction (CC Act, Reporting, DfT strategy, forecasts)</li> <li>2. Scope (not Carbon, not respond &amp; recover interfaces)</li> <li>3. Severe weather event impacts (case studies)</li> <li>4. Incremental climate change/Changing seasons (making provision in future maintenance strategies and contracts)</li> <li>5. Asset management context</li> <li>6. Risk assessment             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Vulnerable assets</li> <li>ii. Resilient network</li> <li>iii. Operational monitoring and travel information</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. Recommendations</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SC asked for an update from MS on TRL paper on need, opportunity proposal. MS advised this was sent to DfT and he has flagged it up again with Emma Ward – she is aware of it in terms of the discussion had with ME and there may be some points that might help in terms of incentive funding aspects. However currently no real movement.</b></li> <li>• <b>HB suggested sharing information on Transport Metrics which the GLA is consolidating a list for.</b></li> </ul>	

**Next meeting: Friday 11 April 2025 10.00 to 13.00**